Prince Edward Island
Department of Agriculture
Annual Report 1984

85-4138/

Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture Annual Report

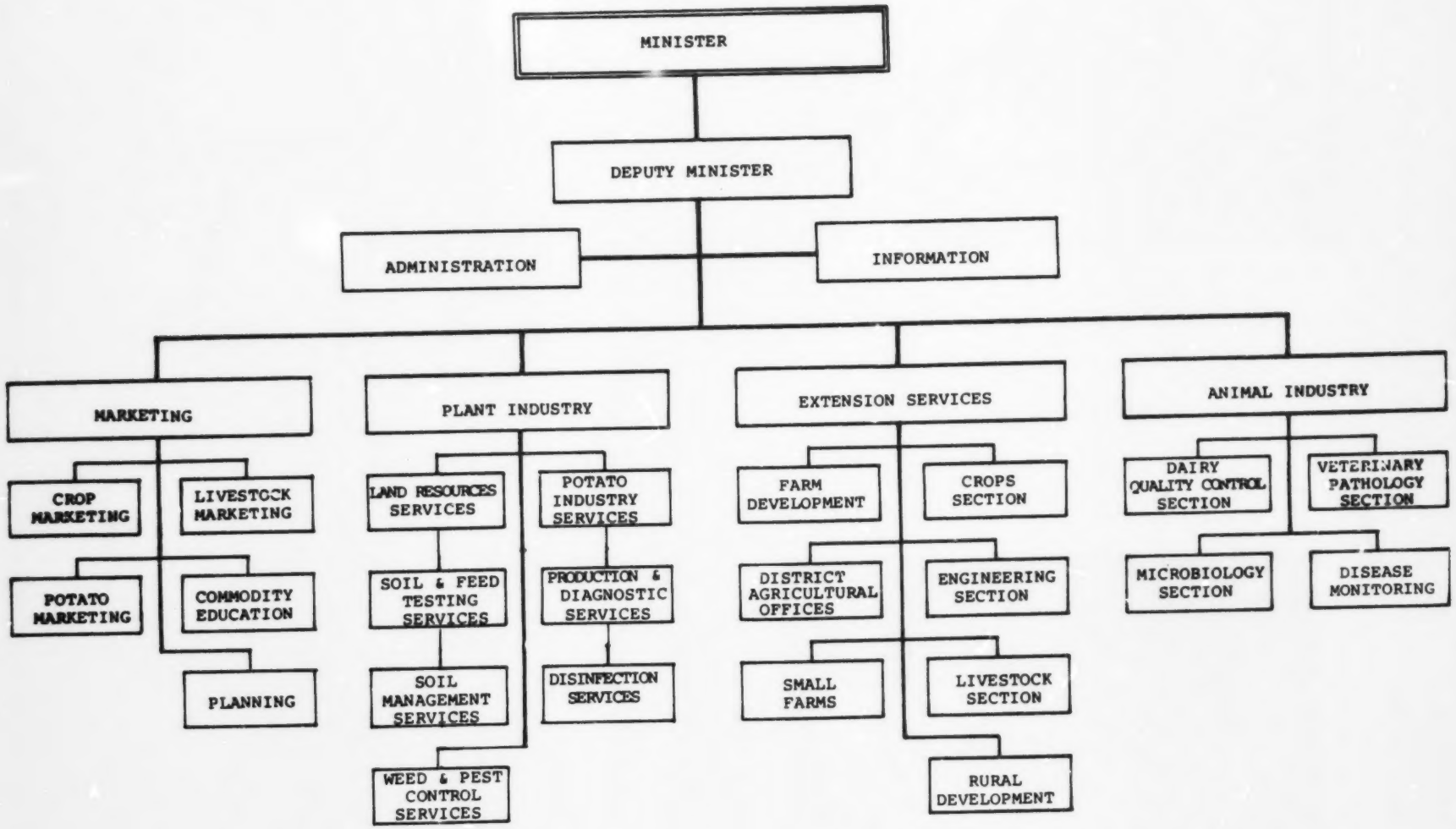
For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1983
and Activities Report for the year ending
December 31, 1984

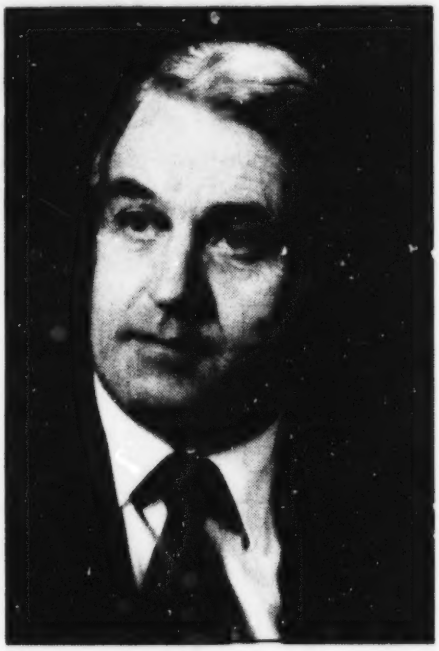
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ACTS

Pursuant to Executive Council Minute M37/84, the Department is responsible for the administration of the following Acts:

Agricultural Chemicals Act
Agricultural Standards Act
Agricultural Products Marketing Act
Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development (PEI) Act
Agrologist Act
Apiary Inspection Act
Artificial Insemination Act
Bang's Disease Eradication Act
Crop Insurance Act
Dairy Producers Act
Dairy Products Act
Division Fence Act
Dog Act
Domestic Animals Act
Farm Implement Act
Federal Dairying Company Act
Field-Root Seeds Zoning Act
Grain Elevators Act
Land Development Corporation Act
Livestock Branding or Tatooing Act
Livestock Community Auction Sales Act
Margarine Act
Marketing Act
Milk Act
Mink Protection Act
Natural Products Marketing Act
Pesticides Control Act
Plant Disease Eradication Act
Potato Crop Mortgage Act
Potato Production Act
Poultry and Poultry Products Act
Race Horse Inspection Act
Veterinary Assistance Act
Veterinary Profession Act
Women's Institute Act

P.E.I. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE





P.E.I. Department of Agriculture
Charlottetown, 1985

TO THE HONOURABLE JOSEPH AUBIN DOIRON,
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Sir:

I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture comprised of financial statements for the period April 1, 1983, to March 31, 1984, and activities for the calendar year, 1984.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Prowse Chappell
Minister of Agriculture

To the Honourable Prowse G. Chappell
Minister of Agriculture

Sir:

I am pleased to present the annual report of the Department of Agriculture for the 1984 calendar year and the financial report for the fiscal year 1983-84.

During the year, an Agricultural Sub-Agreement was signed as part of the Federal-Provincial Economic and Regional Development Agreement. This subagreement makes provision to increase agricultural research efforts related to our particular needs, provides grants to encourage soil and water conservation and land management practices, provides funds to carry out projects aimed at improving technology on farms, as well as marketing initiatives and infrastructure, and programs to improve our crop and livestock health status.

The strategy of the Department has switched from a capital grants assistance program to assistance related to improved productivity and market expansion. The announcements related to the Atlantic Veterinary College and the government's commitment to a livestock killing plant have supported this strategy.

Your Department has worked with the dairy industry towards reaching the objectives of the Ten Point Dairy Plan and I am pleased to report sound progress.

Farm cash income reached a record $193 million in 1984. These receipts had a significant effect on the total economy of Prince Edward Island.

The Federal-Provincial Commodity Development Incentives Program concluded in 1984 with approximately $5 million paid out to farmers over the three-year period representing about $18 million of total investment on farms.

The details of all programs are included in the report of each Branch.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Lloyd Palmer

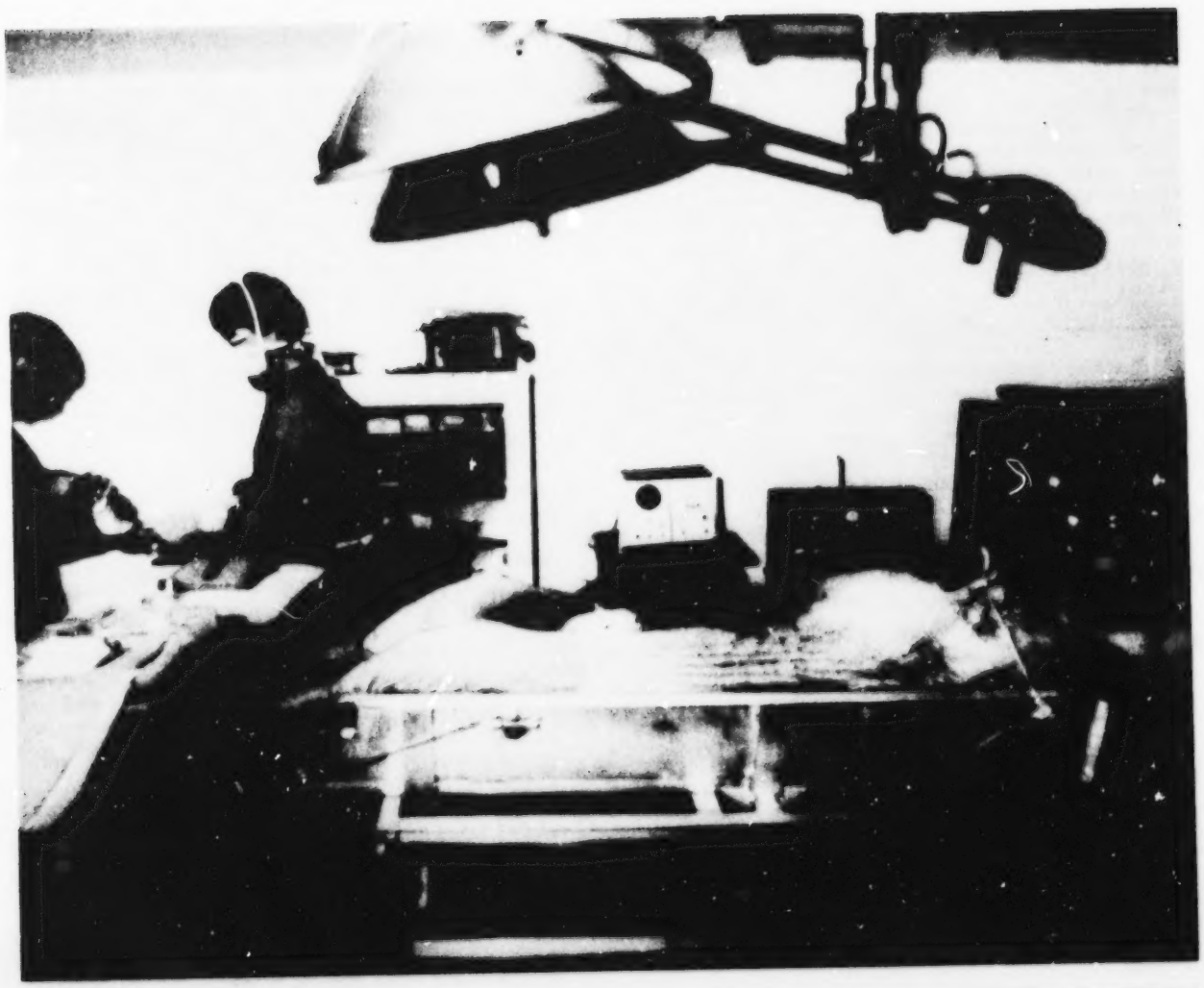
1984
Annual Report

Index

P.E.I. Department of Agriculture Organization Chart 1
Minister's Letter 2
Deputy's Letter 3

Branches:

Animal Industry Services 5
Veterinary Pathology 6
Microbiology 6
Disease Monitoring 6
Dairy Quality Control 7
Extension Services 8
Farm Development 9
District Agricultural Offices 14
Rural Development 17
Engineering 25
Small Farms 26
Crops 28
Livestock 33
Marketing 39
Planning 39
Livestock 39
Crops 41
Commodity Education 41
Plant Industry Services 44
Potato Industry Services 45
Land Resources Services 49
Weed & Pest Control Services 50
Administration 53
Information 54
Women's Institute 55
Financial Statement 57



Animal Industry Services Branch

The Animal Industry Services Branch is responsible for the health related productivity of P.E.I. livestock. The Branch operates diagnostic services and provides advisory and technical service for livestock producers and veterinarians. The Branch is responsible for administering veterinary and meat inspection services and for supplying veterinary pathology, veterinary microbiology and disease monitoring services.

The Branch is also responsible for Dairy Quality Control and milk analyses for payment. Dairy Microbiology Services are carried out and grants are administered to the P.E.I. Humane Society and Artificial Breeders Association.

Veterinarians Deliver Herd Health and Clinical Services

The Herd Health and Clinical Veterinary Service Programs are delivered to producers by 21 veterinarians located in six veterinary practices. One veterinarian is in Souris, one in Brudenell, three in Montague, nine are in Charlottetown, four are in Kensington and three are in O'Leary. Veterinary services to producers are subsidized to make equitable the veterinary charges regardless of the location of the producer. In addition, the veterinary professional service charges are subsidized. Call charges are subsidized on herd health visits.

In 1984, veterinarians made 5,807 Herd Health visits which is approximately an 8 per cent increase over 1983 figures. Veterinarians made 15,907 veterinary clinical visits, a decrease of 8.6 per cent. This supports the continuing efforts of the Branch to encourage farmers to practice herd health or preventive medicine concepts. In addition, the veterinary practitioners carried out 1,657 visits to inspect carcasses under the Meat Inspection Program. Total carcasses inspected included 9,192 beef, 4,596 pork and 1,376 lambs. This reflects a 20 per cent decrease in cattle slaughtered at domestic abbatoirs.

The Meat Inspection Program is carried out jointly with the Department of Health and Social Services and ensures Prince Edward Island consumers a healthy product from an inspected facility.

Disease Monitoring Services Provide a First Line of Defense

The swine inspection and quarantine stations continue to provide the first line of defense against the introduction of off Island diseases (Hemophilus pleuropneumonia) into P.E.I. swine. There are two inspection stations, one each at Caribou, N.S. and Cape Tormentine, N.B. and three quarantine stations in the province.

Herd certifications for minimal disease swine operations and disease investigations in all species by department veterinarians in consultation with laboratory personnel and field veterinarians provide constant surveillance of disease prevalence on P.E.I.

In 1984 an increased effort was mounted to provide swine producers with health related productivity information. Slaughter carcasses were evaluated to indicate on farm prevalences of enzootic pneumonia, atrophic rhinitis and internal parasites. Field visits were increased to meet the demand from producers interested in conversion to minimal disease swine.

Veterinary Pathology Workload Increased

The Veterinary Pathology Laboratory received 5,545 consignments for diagnoses in 1984, an increase of 20 per cent compared to the previous year.

The specimens submitted were from all species and with a variety of diagnoses indicative of our broad base in agriculture. Toxicoses due to Ragwort and Lead continue to be commonly found in our domestic species. Swine suffer from a multitude of infections, congenital and nutritionally related diseases. Cancers and abortions in sheep continue to affect the industry.

Diagnoses of special interest and note confirmed by our pathologists and laboratory staff were: Infectious Laryngotracheitis of chickens, Fall Abortion Syndrome in sows, Dwarfism in cattle and Lymphoplasmocytic Enteritis in horses.

A major strength of the provincial veterinary program continues to be the diagnostic support and service provided by the Veterinary Pathology Laboratory.

Veterinary Microbiology Laboratory

The Veterinary Microbiology Laboratory processed 37,215 individual specimens in 1984 consisting of 4,427 diagnostic, 9,422 mastitis, 7,133 somatic cell and 16,233 quality control specimens. The quality control specimen include 2,195 standard plate counts, 6,011 plate loop counts and 8,027 antibiotic tests of which 23 were positive for penicillin and 1 for other antibiotics or inhibitors. The processing of these specimens required 25,644 tubes and/or plates of media.

Although there has been an increase in the number of submissions, the number of specimens per submission has decreased. However, it is important to note that the time taken to isolate and identify pathogens from these specimens has remained almost constant due to additional and more involved procedures.

Two important changes implemented in 1984 were:

(1) In January the laboratory began a media and antibiiotic sensitivity quality assurance program, and

(2) In June the laboratory modified the antibiotic sensitive bacteria. This allows for the results to be known the same day as testing whereas before there was a 24 hour delay. This keeps our Branch on a par with testing procedures performed by the industry.

Microbiology isolates were much the same as in previous years. One unusual isolate (the first isolated in this province) was an algae — *Prototheca zopfii* — from a milk sample from a cow with chronic mastitis.

Dairy Quality Control Laboratory

During 1984 no changes were made in Legislation governing milk quality control.

Total milk production for the province January - November, 1984 was approximately 92.2 million litres. This is an increase of approximately 1.32 per cent over a similar period last year. This is the pure figure of producer shipments to plants. Of this 92.2 million litres, 12.3 million litres are considered as Fluid sales (Class I producers' production sold as Fluid milk in Province). This does not include Fluid milk surplus to the Fluid market sold as Industrial milk. This figure is included in the total Industrial milk production. Of the remainder, 71.9 million litres are considered as Industrial milk shipments, and 7.0 million litres is considered as cream shipments (in milk equivalents).

In P.E.I. there are 871 milk producers, a decrease of 7.7 per cent from 1983. Of the 871 producers, 139 are Class I producers (Fluid), 478 are Industrial producers and 254 are cream producers.

Creamery butter production (January - November, 1984) was 1.26 million kilograms which is a slight decrease over the previous year. No weight certificates were issued for skim milk powder during 1984.

Total cheddar cheese production is manufactured at Amalgamated Dairies Ltd. in Summerside. Cheddar cheese production decreased approximately 29.5 per cent over the same period in 1983 (January - November). Total litres of Ice Cream Mix manufactured amounted to 2.0 million litres with one plant not reporting. Whey butter production amounted to 64.7 thousand kilograms (January - November, 1984) which is a 6.4 per cent decrease from 1983.

As of July 1984 dairy cow numbers in the province numberd 22,500, while dairy replacement heifers numbered approximately 8,000.

During 1984, 14 Dairy Processing Plants were licensed. These were 8 fluid plants, 5 creameries, and 2 industrial plants. The Department of Health and the P.E.I. Milk Marketing Commission are responsible for licensing Fluid Plants, while the Department of Agriculture issues a license to Manufacturing Plants.

Three persons attended and successfully completed a Bulk Tank Graders Course and were subsequently issued a license permitting them to pick up and transport bulk milk in the province.

Provincial Dairy Staff, in cooperation with Federal Dairy Division officials conducted in-depth inspections on all Dairy Processing Plants in the Province.

A Plate Loop Count for bacteria is performed on all Industrial milk shippers, while Class I bacterial numbers are determined by the Standard Plate Method. These analyses are conducted on a monthly basis, with those producers who exceed the regulations being rechecked seven to 10 days after exceeding our requirements.

Approximately and only 2.0 per cent of our Industrial milk shipments exceeded our regulation of 300,000 bacteria/ml while approximately 1.0 per cent of our Class I shipments exceeded the regulation of 100,000 bacteria/ml. This low figure is indicative of the present high quality of our raw milk.

All producers' samples submitted to the laboratory were analyzed for antibiotic inhibitors by the modified I.D.F. method using *B. stearothermophilus*. Detectibility to 0.0025 I.U. is possible with this method. Only .29 per cent of producer samples were confirmed to have contained penicillin indicating good compliance to antiobiotic withdrawal times.

All Class I producers have had their premises inspected during the year. Follow up Inspections were carried out to determine if the recommendations of the initial inspection were carried out. Industrial milk producers' premises are now being inspected and a new farm inspection report has been developed which will be used on all producers. This will allow the facilities to be rated more objectively on a point system.

The laboratory is conforming to standards recommended by the National Liaison Group on Milk Quality Standards to bring our province in line with the national norm.

The Dairy lab analyzes all Industrial and Class I producer's milk samples for payment. Industrial producers are analyzed twice monthly on composite samples, while Class I producers are analyzed once/week on fresh samples. During 1983, the Dairy Lab analyzed 72,708 samples for butterfat and protein. A bacterial analysis is performed routinely on all bulk milk on a monthly basis. During the year 8,206 samples were processed for bacterial analysis. All Industrial milk samples which do not meet Grade A standards are rechecked and approximately 4.4 per cent of the samples submitted required rechecks. Only 1.0 per cent of Class I producers' samples exceeded the regulation of 100,000 bacteria/ml on the initial test, again indicating a high quality product.

7,298 samples were tested for adulteration during 1984.

Extension Services Branch

The Extension Services Branch contributes to the development of agriculture in Prince Edward Island by

1. *providing technical information and skills training on farm production, management and marketing;*
2. *providing management programs and services and individual farm and home management counselling to farm families to assist them in making the best use of finances and other resources to improve their net income and the productivity and efficiency of their farm operations;*
3. *assisting youth and farm organizations to increase the effectiveness of their programs and the leadership skills of their executive and members;*
4. *implementing agricultural assistance programs and policies to encourage the development and use of quality livestock and cropping programs.*

The Extension Services Branch consists of a team effort between specialized extension resource groups (i.e. Crops, Engineering, Livestock and Rural Development and the District Agricultural Offices in West Prince, Summerside, Souris, Charlottetown and Montague.)

Program Direction

A) In 1984 the Commodity Development Incentive Program concluded. This series of capital grant policies which started with the Family Farm Program, provided many useful opportunities for counselling and assistance to Prince Edward Island farm families by Extension Branch staff. There was, however, a negative aspect of the work because a great deal of time was spent in the administration of the grants programs.

The conclusion of the programs offered the opportunity to get back to basic extension work in all areas of production and management with farm families. In the last six months of 1984 these extension activities once again became the entire focus of the Extension Services Branch.

B) In 1984 the development and piloting of Farm Financial Management Programs was a priority. This series of training activities included courses based on cost of production studies by commodity and individual counselling. This emphasis on costs, returns and financial management involved district management and extension staff in a combined effort to focus all extension programs on the financial management of each commodity.

C) Livestock, crops and engineering programs increasingly reflected an emphasis on the productivity of farm production. Involvement by staff in the development and extension of information from federal Productivity Enhancement Projects continued in 1984. Additional activity is anticipated with the implementation of the 1984-1989 ERDA agreement. The new Soil and Water Management Sub-Agreement increased the work load of the Engineering Section in the last three months of 1984. This emphasis on soil conservation is both timely and important to the needs of Prince Edward Island agriculture and has the potential to maintain and develop the productivity of Prince Edward Island farm land. Programs using computer technology were developed during 1984 so that productivity programs could be more easily implemented and managed. Sow Productivity and Somatic Cell count programs are examples of efforts underway to make the latest information quickly available for the productivity management of Prince Edward Island farms.

D) The Small and Limited Resource Farm Program is now administered by the Extension Services Branch. This is an important out-reach program for clientele not regularly served by extension staff (i.e. the part-time and limited resource farm family.) An extension of this activity on a regional basis through the Council of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers has important implications for the future with the potential of greater cooperation among these jurisdictions and joint action for the solution of some technical and marketing problems.

Farm Development Section

The Farm Development Section contributes to the development of Agriculture in Prince Edward Island through

1) the coordination and implementation of the Commodity Development Incentive Program.

2) cost-of-production studies on agricultural commodities and the development of support materials including computer programs for financial management training and councelling activities.

3) research and analysis of agricultural policies.

Commodity Development Incentives Program Concluded

The Farm Development Section is responsible for (1) the administration of the Commodity Development Incentive Program; (2) Cost of Production Studies; (3) the development of farm management support materials and computer financial planning aids; and (4) other program development and analysis on a special project basis.

In 1984 the major emphasis was on concluding the Commodity Development Incentive Program which formally ended March 31, 1984. However, activity continued throughout the year to wind up all the details including appeals and defaults on program commitments by individual producers.

The program money paid out under the General Grants Section was $3,389,854 of which 41.2 per cent or $1,396,030 was paid out in 1984. In the Commodity Specific Grants Section $1,684,315 was paid out with 52.3 per cent or $880,842 being paid out in 1984.

The major areas of activity in the Specific Grants Section were: feed handling systems, erosion control, manure handling systems, aerated grain storage and land clearing.

In the General Grants Section equal amounts were spent in construction and the purchase of machinery and equipment while about one half as much was spent on breeding stock.

The Farm Development sub-committee held 12 meetings during the year and dealt with 531 cases. Applications from new operations, program changes, policy issues and questionable claims were handled by the committee as well as the terms of reference for winding up the program.

The Commodity Development Incentive Program Appeals Board held 13 meetings and handled 161 cases, including 91 appeals, 52 defaulters, 13 miscellaneous cases and 5 in an advisory capacity.

Cost of production information was gathered for swine, potato and dairy enterprises with summaries and individual reports published.

Work has been started on the preparation of fact sheets with three having been written on the above cost of production packages.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES
COMMODITY DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES PROGRAM

	Applicants Approved	
District	**1984**	**To Date**
O'Leary	33	187
Summerside	39	420
Charlottetown	41	430
Montague	13	213
Souris	5	80
TOTAL	131	1330

PHASE III GRANTS PROCESSED

General Grants	**Number of Claims**		**Value of Claims**	
	1984	**To Date**	**1984**	**To Date**
Construction Projects	314	760	571,412	1,612,739
Machinery & Equipment	589	1409	557,287	1,271,023
Breeding Stock	217	470	261,418	471,976
Land Activities	14	65	5,913	34,116
Total of General Claims	1134	2704	1,396,030	3,389,854
Average of General Claims			1,231	1,254
Number of Farms Claimed	270	810		
Average Per Farm Claimed			$5170	$4,185
Commodity Specific Grants				
Number of Specific Claims	513	936		
Value of Specific Claims			$880,842	$1,684,315
Average of Specific Claims			1,717	1,799
Number of Farms Claimed	247	516		
Average Per Farm Claimed			3,566	3,264

PAID CLAIMS BY PROJECT - GENERAL GRANT

	Number of Claims		Project Claims	
	1984	To Date	1984	To Date
Beef Barns	40	99	88,791	250,326
Dairy Barns	50	94	104,619	216,562
Horse Barns	0	1	0	1,234
Pack Barns	0	2	0	12,731
Piggeries	54	104	116,117	256,036
Poultry Barn	6	10	10,580	21,760
Sheep Barn	2	4	4,443	9,385
Other barns	9	34	20,204	78,839
Greenhouse	18	35	47,224	89,952
Granary	9	27	8,268	19,892
Machine Sheds	21	65	45,746	161,218
Milkhouses	0	7	0	7,383
Mink / Fox Sheds	39	92	29,146	70,778
Silos	0	9	0	31,728
Warehouse	7	42	27,529	173,354
Kilns	2	12	8,850	53,945
Other Farm Buildings	57	123	59,895	157,616
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION	314	760	$571,412	$1,612,739
Alternator	26	56	$13,461	$28,370
Barn cleaner	7	25	7,705	33,569
Bulk tank	4	11	4,651	11,111
Cultivating equip.	26	81	11,016	32,948
Electrical system	12	30	5,036	13,448
Grain equip.	21	76	15,544	62,057
Harvesting equip.	10	52	13,663	66,127
Haying equip.	110	318	83,735	238,404
Irrigation equip.	0	0	0	0
Loaders	8	18	9,141	18,763
Manure equip.	18	50	15,149	45,618
Milking equip.	31	77	28,396	83,328
Potato equip.	110	168	158,707	215,127
Tobacco equip.	8	32	4,201	16,872
Tractor	29	83	108,793	230,349
Other equip.	169	332	78,089	174,932
TOTAL	589	1,409	$557,287	$1,271,023

	Number of Claims		Project Claims	
Breeding Stock	1984	To Date	1984	To Date
Brood Mares	0	1	0	375
Beef Cows	62	102	61,836	111,968
Dairy Cows	65	140	135,418	184,452
Fox	43	107	32,207	86,128
Goats	0	0	0	0
Mink	1	17	1,227	9,840
Poultry	0	0	0	0
Sheep	3	8	681	9,888
Swine	43	95	30,049	70,325
Other Breeding Stock	0	0	0	0
TOTAL LIVESTOCK	217	470	261,418	471,976

Land Activities				
Land clearing	3	21	805	7,369
Land drainage	0	4	0	1,772
Land renovation	1	2	2,900	3,387
Manure storage	1	16	71	13,835
Trees	0	0	0	0
Other land improvement	1	1	315	315
Farm lanes	2	3	525	840
Fencing	3	6	515	1,170
TOTAL LAND ACTIVITIES	14	65	5,913	34,116
TOTAL GENERAL	1,134	2,704	1,396,030	3,389,854

COMMODITY SPECIFIC PROJECTS CLAIMED

PROJECT DESCRIPTION				
Potato storage vent.	2	7	$1,020	$37,727
Aerated grain storage	67	317	110,817	535,330
Hay dryer	13	31	13,986	28,092
Small fruit/veg. coolers	0	0	0	0
Blueberry land development	32	41	72,480	85,420
Feed Handling system	120	138	221,740	280,334
Forage conversion	23	47	49,119	123,935
Prod. & harvesting aids	25	38	37,323	63,185
Calf hutches	3	7	1,117	3,333
Grain dryers	1	1	1,764	1,764
Manure Handling System	28	41	86,666	135,975
Milk Metering devices	12	14	6,816	7,276
Land clearing	87	118	110,724	156,048
Land drainage	40	57	42,189	66,097
Erosion control, level.	59	77	124,824	158,773
Other land development	1	2	257	1,026
TOTAL COMMODITY SPECIFIC	513	936	$880,842	$1,684,315

PAID FARM GRANTS BY PRIMARY ENTERPRISE

	NUMBER OF FARMS TO END OF PROGRAM	PAID CLAIMS TO END OF PROGRAM	AVERAGE GRANT PER FARM
Blueberry	20	$ 82,995	4,159
Cereal	7	36,254	5,179
Potato	172	992,011	5,768
Rutabaga	2	6,332	3,166
Strawberry	2	5,006	2,503
Tobacco	40	231,796	5,795
Vegetable	10	60,367	6,037
Other crops	4	11,297	2,824
Mixed crops	9	23,196	2,577
Mixed crops & Livestock	58	211,776	3,651
Mixed livestock	40	172,617	4,315
Agriculture	2	5,149	2,579
Beef	127	599,169	4,718
Dairy	292	1,592,789	5,455
Fur bearing	51	184,976	3,627
Horse	1	747	747
Sheep	8	40,544	5,058
Swine	118	736,564	6,242
Poultry	10	76,833	7,683
Other Livestock	12	3,751	3,751
TOTALS	974	$5,074,169	$5,210

TOTAL GRANTS PAID BY CLASS

Class	Number	Grant Paid	Average Grant
New	72	$794,903	$11,040
Emerging	142	694,605	4,891
Established	915	3,019,930	3,300
Pt. Time New	25	47,165	1,886
Pt. Time Emerging	58	184,897	3,187
Pt. Time Established	118	332,669	2,819

District Agricultural Offices

Five District Agricultural Offices with staff working from the West Prince Regional Services Center, O'Leary; the East Prince Regional Services Center, Summerside; the Agricultural Research and Extension Building, Charlottetown; the Eastern Kings Regional Services Center, Souris and the Southern Kings and Queens Regional Services Center in Montague delivered production, management and financial assistance programs to farm families across the province.

Mass Media

To promote good production and management information and practices and extension events such as courses, workshops, farm meetings, etc. district staff contributed to departmental radio programs and Corner-

Extension Services

	West Prince	Summerside	Charlottetown	Souris	Montague
Office Calls	1854	3199	865	1870	686
Farm/Home Visits	1018	660	511	223	557
Short Courses	9	9	11	6	5
Attendance	116	115	142	80	75
Farm Tours	12	5	2	1	2
Attendance	131	129	26	35	66
CanFarm Clients	5	1	2	2	7
LDC/PLA Farm Plans					
FCC Farm Plans	11	18	5	6	7
FDBD Farm Plans			4		
Telephone	6672	8311	1440	7193	1978
Information Sessions	49	28	14	18	40
Attendance	1056	645	764	569	1311
Soil & Crop Members	88	44	100	63	100
Directors Meetings	5	3	4	5	2
Information Meetings	1		3	3	1
Attendance	15		140	76	6
Crop Tours	1		1	1	1
Attendance	14		25	4	32
Farm Demonstrations		16	8	26	18
Use of Brillion Seeder	43	15	13	17	18
Acres Seeded	547	150	197	110	174
Rock Rake	7	—	—	—	—
Acres	35	—	—	—	—
Consumer Requests	346	552	971	585	419
4-H Camps	1	—	1	—	—
Attendance	30	—	52	—	—
District 4-H Council Meetings	12	6	6	7	4

post on a regular basis. During 1984 increased efforts were made to ensure that the quality and quantity of information contributed to Cornerpost on a monthly basis was improved. In addition, through newsletters and circular letters, soil and crop groups and 4-H groups were kept informed by efforts of the District Agricultural Office staff.

Farm Management Emphasized

During 1984 microcomputers were installed in the West Prince District Office, the Agricultural Research and Extension Building (2), the Farm Development Section and the Administration Branch of the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture. Staff training focused on efforts to teach Extension Branch personnel effective use of this new technology. Programs were developed or adapted so that the machines could be used as an aid in farm management counselling (i.e. for budgets, cash flows, cost of production studies, etc. and for productivity programs in crops, livestock and engineering.) Computer equipment was demonstrated to farm groups during the year at events such as the Farm Business for Farm Women Conference, the P.E.I. Soil and Crop Improvement Conference, and at individual group meetings such as Women In Support Of Agriculture workshops.

The following quote describes the type of intensive farm management counselling being offered in 1984. This description of activities is from the West Prince District Agricultural Office:

"Farm Management is a priority with this office. We have spent a lot of time in this area over the past year with mixed results. We have accomplished more on intensive work on operations which were in financial difficulty. However, some of the operations could not see daylight ahead. This must be the most painful area of consultation; when one spent considerable time with the farm operation and especially the family. The decision to liquidate or being forced to liquidate is a difficult pill to swallow. This pill has been swallowed too often in our area over the past year. The swine sector was the hardest hit. If there is no improvement in prices this slide will continue and the potato sector will follow.

This year we completed 57 cash flows and variations within these proposals. Also 91 loan calculations were completed. From this total amount 30 cash flows and 68 loan calculations were completed on our computer. With the addition of the computer, break-even analysis for the feeder hog industry and least-cost feed rations for the dairy sector have been calculated. With more computer familiarity and more programs available we will be able to expand its use next year without the difficulty of learning how to use the machine. Only one Farm Credit Corporation (FCC) application was completed this year, mainly due to the high interest rates. With Provincial Lending Authority rates being better, 10 applications were completed. Six of these applications were for re-financing FCC loans with high interest rates.

Only four credit conferences between lenders, the farmers and farm management staff took place during the past year. Sixteen Farm Business Analysis, more than 30 partial budgets, 17 payroll records and 36 record systems were completed or set up in the past year. There are only five farmers keeping the Canfarm record system - down from 11 last year and 18 from the previous year. This decline is due to farmer users now using basic farm record books, or having purchased their own farm computers.

The number of farmers purchasing, using, taking computer courses or planning to purchase computers has increased significantly over the past year. Other areas of farm management were emphasized through our short courses."

Farm Financial Management Courses By Commodity

In the winter of 1984 a commodity approach to farm management courses and extension was piloted in the Summerside District with courses offered in Dairy and Potato Farm Financial Management. These four-day courses covered the development of cost of production figures for crops, the development and analysis of six financial statements and aspects of credit, taxation and estate planinng. The pilot courses proved very successful and the range of commodities was expanded during 1984 to include beef, swine and tobacco. The first financial management courses for swine producers was offered in the fall of 1984 in O'Leary and a Dairy Financial Management Course was presented in Charlottetown in mid-December.

Preparation for these courses and the series that continues into 1985 involved a great deal of work by district, farm management, crops and livestock staff. Preparation has included case studies for cost of production financial analysis, as well as detailed information on credit, estate planning and taxation. Assistance in the presentation of the courses is being given by credit agencies as well as representatives of the Chartered Accountants profession.

Cost Of Production Studies Assisted

District staff provided assistance to the Farm Development Section in the collection of data for costs of producing the commodities of potatoes, dairy and swine.

Commodity Development Incentive Program Ends

District Office staff were involved in the wind-up of this program throughout the first half of 1984. Staff were responsible for contacts with individual farmers in this program through counselling and providing information, assisting with the completion and summarizing of application forms, processing claims, making inspections and regular updates of planned projects completed. Because of the additional projects eligible for funding in late 1983 and the ending of the program in 1984, there has been a great deal of activity in the administration of this program in 1984.

Farm Organizations Assisted

District staff continued to work with all farm organizations during the year in all districts. To assist farm organization leaders and directors to more effectively serve their membership, two R.S.V.P. (Rural Seminars for Vital People) programs were developed and carried out in 1984. Information presented included parliamentary procedure, motivation, program planning, organization of meetings, etc. Sessions were offered in each district for all interested organizations as well as specific sessions for W.I. and 4-H members. In total nine sessions were held in 1984, involving 140 people.

District staff assisted with conferences and events held on a provincial basis including the farm Business for Farm Women Conference, Livestock Days, the Young Farmers Conference and the P.E.I. Soil and Crop Improvement Association Conference. Business management of P.E.I. farms was emphasized during these conferences. In total more than 1,000 people participated in these educational events.

4-H

Staff worked with 4-H Councils in all districts to assist in the leadership and skill development of 4-H members in Prince Edward Island.

Exhibitions

District office and other extension staff assisted with organization, displays and—or the judging of livestock, crops 4-H and Home Economics entries at all exhibitions in the province including Alberton, Egmont Bay, Summerside Livestock Exhibition, Kensington Harvest Festival, Crapaud, Souris, Dundas, Maritime Winter Fair and the Atlantic Winter Fair.

Short Courses Offered

Forty short courses were taught to 528 farm family members during 1984. These included 24 farm machinery courses with an attendance of 275; 10 farm management courses with an attendance of 160 and 6 crops and livestock production courses with an attendance of 93.

Workshops and Presentations - Agriculture

A major part of the total extension effort is the organization and implementation of workshops on a wide range of machinery, production, management and marketing topics. The events sponsored by the Department are frequently in cooperation with farm organizations and associations and—or private companies.

In 1984 these topics included livestock production and management, home gardening, animal nutrition, income tax, soybean production, fox pelting, pasture management, estate and tax planning, stray voltage, quotas, etc.

More than 130 presentations were made to an attendance of 4,000 people.

Home Economics Focuses On Development

The focus of the Home Economics effort of the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture is to assist in developing of agriculture and the development of leadership in the farm community.

Assistance was given on request to individual consumers with over 1500 requests received. Associations and commodity groups were assisted in the promotion of Island produced foods through commodity education and promotion programs.

District home economists organize and carry out the Country Corner - Country Kitchen newspaper features in promotion of farm products through the use of favourite recipes.

Information sessions were held on a variety of topics including microwaves, asparagus, the food system, Canada Food Guide, freezer beef, meat cutting, time management, nutrition for teachers, Energy, Red Meats, school lunches, and the School Milk Program.

Work was carried out in 1984 on five new programs - Step by Step Money Management, (a home study course on Home Budgeting, the Abby Plan (nutrition information for Island Foods), Time Management and Microwave Cooking.

Soil and Crop Improvement Associations

Soil and Crop Improvement Associations were active in all districts in support of the provincial objectives of improving soils and crop production in Prince Edward Island.

Conferences, information meetings, farm tours, competitions and demonstration plots continue to be the main focus of activities.

The provincial association continued to work with the Canada Department of Agriculture on Productivity Enhancement Programs.

Rural Development Section

The Rural Development Section contributes to the development of Agriculture in Prince Edward Island through:

1) leadership training as a major focus of the 4-H program and by working with other farm groups in Prince Edward Island.

2) training opportunities for skill development and other educational events such as courses, workshops, conferences, tours, etc. for young farmers and farm families.

3) financial assistance programs for students enrolled in vocational, technical and degree programs in agricultural schools and colleges.

4) the development and coordination of farm management information and programs including financial and credit management, estate planning, taxation and other associated topics.

TRAINING

Policies No. 1 and No. 2

Grants and Training Assistance to Students Studying Agriculture, Veterinary Science or Education

These policies were designed to encourage and permit those who wish to obtain training in the technical and professional aspects of agriculture to do so more easily and to ensure a continuing supply of trained people for extension, agri-business, research, veterinary medicine, teaching and farming. There is also provision under Policy No. 1 for those already involved in agriculture to improve their level of skills by participating in recognized correspondence courses related to agricultural production and marketing.

Under Policy No. 1 — Technical and Vocational Agricultural Training Assistance — (a) students at Nova Scotia Agricultural College are granted financial assistance covering tuition and a living allowance of $25 per week towards the cost of room and board and (b) students attending other technical institutions are granted assistance covering tuition, $25 per week living allowance and one round-trip railway fare in each academic year.

The following is the number of students being assisted under Policy No. 1:

Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, N.S.	- 32
	Total - 32

Policy No. 2 — Students engaged in studies leading to an agricultural degree, veterinary medicine degree or a Bachelor of Education in Agriculture are all eligible for assistance under Policy No. 2. The following numbers of students are being assisted at various institutions:

Training Calendar

The 1984 Department of Agriculture calendar appeared as a monthly centerfold in 11 editions of Cornerpost. Each issue featured a specific Prince Edward Island rural organization including a picture of a leader of that organization. Upcoming training events were listed on the calendar.

Farm Machinery Training Service Offered

A farm machinery training service was offered again from June to October of 1984. Four instructors taught farm machinery repair and maintenance skills in farming to small groups of interested farmers in communities across the province.

A total of 125 farmers attended courses on sprayer calibration, haying equipment, grain combines, potato harvesters and plow adjustment.

All training was offered preceding the seasonal use of machinery with in-field check-ups available if necessary.

This service was again coordinated by the Rural Development Section with cooperation from the district offices.

Farm Business for Farm Women Conference A Success

A very successful Farm Business for Farm Women Conference was held for the fifth consecutive year. Approximately 225 women participated in the program held on January 25 and 26, 1984.

District Tours

A number of commodity specific district courses and tours within the province were held for farmers, organized by districts and financed by this section.

Second National Farm Women's Conference

The training coordinator has assisted Women in Support of Agriculture to plan a second National Farm Women's Conference in Prince Edward Island in November, 1985.

A 12 person committee of Prince Edward Island farm women met five times during 1984 and organized a meeting in November with a farm woman representative from each province.

A.C.E.E.E. Hosted

During June, 1984, Prince Edward Island hosted approximately 60 extension workers and farm credit staff at the A.C.E.E.E. two-day Annual Meeting in Summerside.

The keynote guest speaker was Dr. Thomas Frey from the University of Illinois. Immediately preceding the A.C.E.E.E. annual meeting, the training coordinator organized a two-day staff training session on farm finan-

cial management with Dr. Frey as the resource person. The P.E.I. Civil Service Commission financially supported this course and representatives from all Atlantic provinces attended.

Training for Farm Organizations Provided

A new program, Rural Seminars for Vital People, provided training in leadership skills for farm organization leaders.

In March 1984, more than 90 farm leaders attended the first series of day-long R.S.V.P. workshops on Running Meetings Effectively and Motivating Members. These workshops were held in each district.

In November, 50 leaders attended another series of day-long R.S.V.P. workshops on Planning Programs and Making Sure Programs Happen. This workshop was held in four districts.

The training coordinator and West Prince District Home Economist also were resource people for Women's Institutes Fall Conferences. More than 250 women attended, and R.S.V.P. workshops were presented on Running Meetings Effectively and Making Programs Count.

The training coordinator also made an hour-long R.S.V.P. presentation on Running Meetings Effectively to 150 4-H executive members.

The Rural Development Section financially sponsored a series of five workshops for Central Branch W.S.A. during January and February, 1984 on Letter and Report Writing, Program Planning, Problem Solving, Effective Delegation and Decision Making and Conduct of Meetings.

Resource People for Training Programs

The Rural Development Section funded the costs of 25 out-of-province resource people for various Information Days and Conferences including:

Dairy Sanitation Seminar, Facilities and Management of the Young Dairy Calf and Replacement Heifer, Blueberry Information Sessions, Forage Conference, Asparagus Short Course for Small Farms Program, Shoeing and Showing Demonstration, Blueberry Pest Information, Workshop for P.E.I. Chinchilla Ranchers, Respiratory Diseases in Horses, Conservation Tillage Demonstration and Sheep Day.

Out-of-Province Conferences and Tours Funded

The Rural Development Section funded part of the cost of sending 32 farmers and farm women to various out-of-province conferences and tours. These persons were funded for educational purposes — either for individual training or for information to be brought back to the industry. These included:

The Ontario Agricultural College Agricultural Conference, Farm Business Challenges in Richmond, B.C., Potato Conference and Trade Fair in Moses Lake, Washington, Women and Food Production Conference in Guelph, Benchmark 100, a workshop on Dairy Genetics held in Toronto, National Agricultural Plastics Congress in North Carolina, Natural Organic Farmers Association 10th Annual Conference in New Hampshire, a tour of beef operations in Ontario. Greenhouse Growers Association of Nova Scotia Fall Meeting in Kentville, and a tour to New Brunswick.

Milking School for Dairy Farm Women A First

Twenty-one women attended the first Milking School for Dairy Farm Women in Charlottetown. This successful and low-cost program was organized by the Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Charlottetown Branch of Women in Support of Agriculture.

Livestock Days Organized

More than 300 farmers attended Livestock Days, a three-day program offered to farm families who have livestock. The program included Dairy Day, Swine Day, Poultry Day and Beef Day. The Rural Development Section funded the resource people for this program and the training coordinator co-chaired the organizing committee with the supervisor of the Livestock Section.

Farm Welding and Farm Carpentry Courses Offered

The Department of Agriculture in cooperation with Holland College offered part-time welding courses to 12 farmers in Charlottetown and 12 farmers in Summerside and a part-time farm carpentry course to 11 farmers in Summerside. After the farmers had successfully completed the courses, the Department of Agriculture reimbursed each farmer 75 per cent of the tuition fee paid to Holland College.

Farm Organizations Assistance Policy Used

The P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture, the National Farmers' Union, the P.E.I. Junior Farmers' Organization and the Women in Support of Agriculture organization submitted projects for funding under the Farm Organizations Assistance Policy.

The Federation of Agriculture received approval for a Farm Safety Project as well as: Information Project on Present Government Agricultural Programs, Liaison Between Local University and Provincial Agricultural Programs, Study of the Atlantic Freight Assistance Policy and Maritime Freight Act, Feed Freight Assistance Policy, Promotion of Greater Trade with Newfoundland, Provincial Outlook Conference and Improved Agricultural Communications.

The National Farmers' Union received approval for: Education Project, Phase II Small and Limited Resource Farm Development Program, Study of Dairy Quota Situation on P.E.I., Representation to National Government, Feed Grain Policy, Workshop on Communication Techni-

ques and District Directors' Workshop and Study of P.E.I. Natural Products Marketing Act.

The Junior Farmers' Organization received approval for: Farm Safety First-Aid Course, Junior Farmers Exchange Trip and Guest Speaker at General meeting.

The Women in Support of Agriculture group received approval to send two representatives to the Agricultural Outlook Conference.

Maritime Farm Certificate Program Continues

The Prince Edward Island Farm Skills Advisory Committee has selected seven training farms for the Maritime Farm Certificate Program and has placed a trainee on three of these farms.

The Prince Edward Island Farm Skills Advisory Committee directs the Maritime Farm Certificate Program in P.E.I., a program made possible by the sponsorship of N.S.A.C./P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Canada Employment & Immigration Commission and cooperating farmers.

The Maritime Farm Certificate Program is a two-year on-farm training experience designed to teach the necessary skills for a person to enter the agricultural work force as an effective farm worker or herdsman.

Training farms are available in Prince Edward Island for dairy, beef, swine, vegetables and small fruits.

Agricrew Assists With Farm Labour

Ninety-two farmers used the services of an Agricrew during the summer months of 1984. An Agricrew was a team of four students available to work for farm families for less than five days at rock-picking, fencing, painting, brush-clearing or other work for which the farmer would not normally hire labour.

The Prince Edward Island government hired 24 students under Agricrew as part of its Student Employment Creation Program. The training coordinator was responsible for supervising the program.

The program was considered to be successful and was recommended for 1985.

Resource Centre Use Extensive

The Rural Development Section continued to staff the Farm Centre Resource Centre during 1984.

The Farm Centre Resource Centre continued to be used extensively. Films, slide sets, equipment and books were being loaned daily to home economists and agricultural teachers; to departmental staff and organizations. The Farm Safety Committee used the slide sets and films a great deal.

Audio-visual equipment is being used mainly by departmental staff, members of commodity boards and farm organizations.

This section also continued to be responsible for the ordering of materials for all five Resource Centres. This included books, audio-visual materials and periodicals. It should be noted that a centralized ordering service, CANBESCO, has been successfully used to order periodicals for the Resource Centres as well as for Extension Services Branch staff.

Commodity Development Incentive Program - Training Component

Training, a component of the Commodity Development Incentive Program (ended March 31, 1984) is based on the new farmer's skill level as assessed by a tester farmer (experienced farmer). There are 15 tester farmers who assess the new farmers to ensure they have the necessary basic skills to begin farming.

Training programs can be a combination of classroom instruction, short courses, tours, workshops and on-farm counselling.

There was a total of 10 new farmers assessed by five tester farmers during 1984.

Young Farmers' Conference Arranged

In cooperation with the P.E.I. Junior Farmers' Association, a Young Farmer Conference was held with approximately 100 young farmers and spouses in attendance.

The theme of the conference was farm management, with topics including computers, information overload, using crop records, using livestock records.

Agricultural Manpower Courses - 1983 - 84

Course	PT/FT	Location	Places
Farm Tractor Maintenance	PT	Summerside	8
Farm Tractor Maintenance	PT	Souris	9
Farm Machinery Repair	PT	Elmsdale	8
Farm Tractor Maintenance	PT	Montague	8
Farm Machinery Repair	PT	Summerside	21
Hay Equipment & Adjustment	PT	Summerside	8
Draft Horse Course	PT	Charlottetown	7

farm law, estate planning, insurance, Futures markets, stress management.

4-H Program

The 4-H Program objectives in Prince Edward Island are:

- to increase the effectiveness of rural people in group situations by involving them in leadership development and personal development programs.
- to strengthen the total family unit by developing the individual in skills, family relationships, home management and community involvement.
- to increase the appreciation for agricultural problems, conditions and programs by carrying out a public relations program for consumers, agri-business, legislators, clientele and future clientele.

Leadership Development Important

Sending 4-H members on award trip programs has been a tradition for the past 50 years. The majority of national and international programs are sponsored and coordinated by the Canadian 4-H Council. 4-H members were involved in award trip programs at the Atlantic, National and International level during 1984. A list of those participating is published elsewhere in this report.

Leader Travel Opportunity

The year 1984 also had educational opportunities for 4-H leaders. Trips to Toronto, Washington, Wisconsin, etc. broadened the knowledge and interest of Island 4-H leaders.

Washington Leaders' Conference

In April two 4-H leaders — Kay Wall from the New Annan 4-H Club and Carol MacLeod from the Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club travelled to Washington, D.C.

Nova Scotia 4-H Conferece

Prince Edward Island sent one delegate to this conference — Robert Wood of the Mermaid-Mount Herbert 4-H Club.

Manitoba Leaders' Conference

Minnie Campbell, Eastern Kings 4-H Club and Anthony Cannon, Village Green 4-H Club, travelled to Winnipeg in March to attend the Manitoba 4-H Council's Annual Meeting and Leaders' Conference.

Provincial 4-H Camp

This year's summer camp was held at Canoe Cove Christian Camp. The theme this year was "Exploring 4-H". The camping program consisted of two camps: Junior (9-11) years and Senior (12-13 years).

Provincial Executive Workshop

In 1984 the provincial 4-H office organized a provincial 4-H executive workshop for the executive members of the 4-H clubs and district 4-H leader councils. There were 160 4-H members and a few leaders present.

Prince Edward Island 4-H Council

The 4-H Council is now in its eleventh year. The 1984 officers were:

Brian Dingwell - President; Kay Wall - Vice-President; Gwyneth Jones - Secretary-Treasurer.

The 4-H Council is organized into six committees:

a) Executive
b) Finance
c) Program and Travel
d) Projects
e) Annual Meeting and Membership
f) Nominations

P.E.I. 4-H Leaders' Conference and Annual Meeting had Dr. Pat Borich of Minnesota as the resource person with presentations on 4-H leadership.

The Provincial Annual Awards Banquet saw Elmsdale 4-H Club receive the trophy as the Most Improved Club of the Year. Certificates were presented for 5, 10 and 15 years of 4-H leadership. The Friend of 4-H Award 1984 was presented to Jack Reddin of Reddin Farm Equipment of Crossroads.

Program and Travel Committee

The Annual P.E.I. 4-H Council Scholarship of $750 was awarded to Sandra Wall of the New Annan 4-H Club.

Seven leaders were taken on a tour to the Nova Scotia 4-H Show in Windsor in late September. The purpose of the tour was to collect ideas, plans and programs that could encourage improved participation by 4-H members in local exhibitions.

Communications Competitions

The Communications Competitions were held in May and the Provincial Champions were as follows: Renee Murphy, Junior Public Speaking; Jacinta MacDonald, Intermediate Public Speaking; Lori Toombs; Senior Public Speaking; John Van Dyke, Single Demonstration; Donna MacLeod and Melinda Robbins, Double Demonstration.

4-H PROJECT COMMITTEES

Home Economics

No new home economics projects have been prepared as the number of projects available was felt adequate. However, a number of minor revisions were carried out by means of inserts in a number of Home Economics project books.

Junior Leadership

A new project manual has been prepared and typed. This project is now being piloted by one Junior Leader in each of the five agricultural districts.

Audio-Visual

The 4-H audiovisual materials were organized for use at the club level. Slide/tape presentations borrowed from other 4-H programs were changed to apply to the Island 4-H program. A booklet was written for distributior to 4-H clubs stating what materials are available with a description of their content.

Agriculture Projects

Thirty-six 4-H members completed the Steer Project, with 26 steers shown and sold. Stewart Mutch from the Cherrycliffe 4-H Club received the top prize for the 4-H Champion Steer. Irving Oil Ltd. bought two of the Champion 4-H steers, auctioned the beef cuts, and donated $1,000 to the Provincial 4-H Council.

Livestock Conference

All 4-H members enrolled in the Market Steer Project in 1984 were required to attend the Livestock Conference which took place two weeks prior to the Easter Beef Show and Sale. Ninety steer project and other 4-H members gathered at the Boy Scout Camp for sessions on selection and breeding livestock.

Exhibition Book

The 4-H staff produced the Annual Exhibition Book which outlined nine exhibitions that Prince Edward Island 4-H members could enter. In 1984, the Agricultural Committee published a standard set of "Rules and Regulations for P.E.I. 4-H Exhibitions."

Exhibitions

Provincial 4-H staff directly ran 4-H classes at the Provincial Exhibition, the Rural Youth Fair and the Provincial Judging Competition. Provincial staff also assisted district agricultural staff at the Summerside Lobster Carnival, Crapaud Exhibition, Alberton Exhibition, Kensington Harvest Festival, Dundas Plowing Match, Souris Exhibition and Egmont Bay - Mont Carmel Exhibition.

4-H Provincial Livestock Judging Competition

In 1984 the Seventh Young Farmers' Livestock Judging Competition for 4-H, Junior Farmers and Young Farmers was held on 4-H Day of the Provincial Exhibition with 21 young men and women participating. The competitors judged nine classes — three beef, three dairy, one sheep and two swine classes.

The winning competitors were as follows:

Gary Robinson, Brackley
Janet Younker, Kingston
Kenny Mutch, Earnscliffe
Kevin Kelly, Elmsdale (Alternate)

Gary Robinson, Janet Younker and Kenny Mutch represented Prince Edward Island in November at the Royal Winter Fair at the National Livestock Evaluation Competition. The Island team placed eighth overall.

Judging Clinics

During June, the Provincial 4-H office organized two judging clinics. These focussed on beef and swine, and dairy and sheep. Approximately 100 people participated.

4-H Day At The Maritime Winter Fair

Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia again sent delegates to compete in classes at the Maritime Winter Fair. Twenty-three 4-H members competed winning six first placings, three second placings and six third placings.

Rural Youth Fair

The 34th Annual Rural Youth Fair was held on September 8 at the Provincial Exhibition grounds. The fair was opened to all 4-H members who successfully completed their project, with approximately 500 projects being exhibited. More than 300 4-H members participated in events such as tractor rodeo, races, club displays, showmanship competitions, as well as horse, calf, sheep and goat classes.

The 1984 Rural Youth Fair had the following activities as new features:

- a fashion show with members exhibiting their 4-H project garments,
- a demonstration by David Younker on "Homemade Ice Cream",
- a noon luncheon served by the Wheatley River 4-H Club (hamburgers and milk) and
- Farm Safety films.

Tractor Rodeo

The Agricultural Committee has been asking for more emphasis on safety in the Tractor Rodeo Program. As a result, at the spring staff meeting a committee was formed to revamp this program stressing tractor safety. This committee developed a new set of written rules, a new course design, a set of guidelines for organizers and a new score sheet.

Once again, provincial 4-H staff assisted district staff in tractor rodeos at Alberton, Summerside, Crapaud, Dundas and Souris Exhibitions.

The top junior and the top senior participants then came to Charlottetown to compete at the Rural Youth Fair. The winners of this competition were:

Junior - Trevor Farrell, Lot 16 4-H Club

Senior - Carmen Wyand, Cavendish 4-H Club

Project Changes

New projects developed in 1984 were Small Engines II (Members' Manual) and Rabbits.

Projects revised were Dairy, Forages, Foods I, III and IV, Learn to Crochet,.Learn to Knit, Creative Shawls and Afghans, Nature Crafts, Seasonal Decorations, Macrame, Food & You, and Food & You IV.

New projects piloted in 1984 were Pheasant and Junior Leadership.

Other new and revised books were the Leaders' Manual, Exhibition Book, Rural Youth Fair Book, Achievement Day Kits, and Awareness Packs.

Contact Hayes Classic

The 100th Anniversary of the Holstein Breed of Cattle in Canada was celebrated in 1984. To commemorate this event, Holstein Canada organized a Centennial 4-H Calf Show in Markham, Ontario — the Contact Hayes Classic. Provincial 4-H office staff organized a special class to select calves at the Rural Youth Fair, advertised the Contact Hayes Classic to Prince Edward Island 4-H members and assisted with the funding of the national event.

Information and Promotion

4-H staff kept members and leaders informed of events through weekly radio broadcasts, the monthly newsletter —Leaders Line, and through articles in Cornerpost.

The provincial 4-H office and the local CBC station collaborated to make one 30-second promotional ad for public service advertising.

Chris and Christa Clover

For promotion of 4-H to seven and eight-year-olds plus awareness to the general public, the Chris and Christa Clover campaign was developed. Two costumes resembling four-leaf clovers were made. The two summer students developed a skit and information package for presentation and distribution at Achievement Days, Exhibitions, field days and camps.

Other Activities

Staff participated in the work of the Atlantic 4-H Committee, including the Atlantic 4-H Conference, 4-H Day Maritime Winter Fair, 1984 International Judging Seminar and a staff training conference. The Atlantic 4-H Committee is also coordinating the development of 4-H materials. P.E.I. organized and hosted the 1984 Atlantic 4-H Conference.

Canadian 4-H Council

The P.E.I. Department of Agriculture maintains a membership in the Canadian 4-H Council. This association permits Island 4-H members to participate in national and international travel programs.

International Year of the Youth

In preparation for International Year of the Youth (1985), a committee of provincial youth agencies was formed. This committee is planning for a P.F.I. Youth Parliament in November, 1985.

1984 International Exchange Program

The 4-H Agrologist, was awarded an International Exchange by the Agricultural Institute of Canada (A.I.C.). The A.I.C. also selected an Exchange partner, Alex Katebereza, an agriculture instructor in Northeastern Tanzania.

The 4-H Agrologist looked at youth programs in that country, hosted by Mr. Katebereza. In the second part of the exchange Mr. Katebereza visited Prince Edward Island to study the 4-H program here.

The Provincial 4-H Council told Mr. Katebereza that they would be interested in assisting in youth development projects in Tanzania.

4-H AWARDS LIST

Interprovincial Exchange

Marilyn Balderston — North River — British Columbia; Brian Morrisey — Cherrycliffe — Ontario; Kevin McKenna — Elmsdale — Quebec; Tim MacDonald — Bayview — Newfoundland; Marco Diepman — Millview — Nova Scotia.

Citizenship Seminar Ottawa

Bernadine Doiron— St. Anne's; Cindy Kelly — Elmsdale; Colleen MacPhee — Souris West; Roddie Milton — North River; Lisa Murphy — Bayview; Anne Perry — St. Edward's; Brian Dingwall — 4-H Council.

National 4-H Conference "4-H Challenges In The 80's" Toronto

Randall Affleck — Freetown; Kathy Cheverie — Eastern Kings; Peter Lawson — Dunstaffnage - Marshfield; Nancy MacKenzie — Millview - Vernon; Kent Phillips — Elmsdale; Dawna Stevenson — Pleasant Valley; Cathy Vickerson — North River; Pamela Weeks — Pleasant Valley.

Washington Conference

Blair McIsaac — Souris West; Gwyneth Jones — Chaperone.

Canadian National Exhibition Scholarship

Marisa Curley — New Annan.

National 4-H Careers Conference Winnipeg

Stephen Howatt — Freetown; JoAnne Noonan — Albany.

National 4-H Leaders Conference Toronto

Betty Duffy — Village Green; Geraldine Glencross — New Haven 5-Alive; Alan Godfrey — Dunstaffnage-Marshfield; Brenda Johnson — Grand River East; Rena Thompson — Dunstaffnage-Marshfield.

Washington Leaders Conference

Kay Wall — New Annan; Carol MacLeod — Brooklyn-Heatherdale.

U.S. National 4-H Dairy Conference Wisconsin

Randall Affleck — Freetown; Mark MacDonald — Souris West; Donna Thompson — Dunstaffnage-Marshfield.

Agribition 1984: Edmonton

Ronnie Ford — Wheatley River.

Contact Hayes Classic

Elaine Craswell — Cavendish; Bruce Wood — Dunstaffnage-Marshfield; Shelley MacDonald — Tri-Comm; Andrew Dickieson — Cavendish; Tanya Wallace — Elmsdale; Bloyce Thompson — Dunstaffnage-Marshfield.

Danforth Scholarship

Anne Garnhum — Mermaid-Mt. Herbert; Maurice Van Daele — Whim Road.

Junior Farmer Conference and Exchange

Stewart Mutch — Cherrycliffe; Gary Robinson — Brackley.

Leaders Who Received Leadership Certificates

Five Year Certificates

Elizabeth Arbing — Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club; Benjamin Bears — Bayview 4-H Club; James Campbell — Cherrycliffe 4-H Club; Joyce Campbell — Cherrycliffe 4-H Club;Mette Ching — Eastern Kings 4-H Club; Athol Craswell — Cavendish 4-H Club; Ruby Cudmore — Hampshire 4-H Club; Brian Dingwell — Morell 4-H Club; Kathleen Doiron — St. Anne's 4-H Club; Clare Doyle — Cherrycliffe 4-H Club; Marion Drummond — Freetown 4-H Club; Alan C. Larder — Lot 16 4-H Club; Louise Larsen — Belfast 4-H Club; Melvin Ling — Wheatley River 4-H Club; Harry (Buddy) Loane — Brooklyn-Heatherdale 4-H Club; Anne MacDonald — Chepstow-Little Harbour 4-H Club; Magdalene MacDonald — Grand River East 4-H Club; Al MacNeil — Lot 16 4-H Club; Doris MacPhee — Chepstow-Little Harbour 4-H Club; Evelyn MacPhee — Souris West 4-H Club; Lorna MacPhee — Eastern Kings 4-H Club; Daisy Martin — Bayview-Orwell 4-H Club; Nancy Kay Orr — Cavendish 4-H Club; Alan K. Paynter -- New Annan 4-H Club; Isabel Paynter — New Annan 4-H Club; Eric Phillips — Elmsdale 4-H Club; Elwin Wyand — Cavendish 4-H Club.

Ten Year Certificates

Frances Coles — Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club; Judy Gillis — Mermaid-Mt. Herbert 4-H Club; James Harris — Elmsdale 4-H Club; Donald MacDonald — Tri Com 4-H Club; Anita Perry — St. Edward's 4-H Club; Rena Thompson — Dunstaffnage-Marshfield 4-H Club.

Fifteen Year Certificates

John Haslam — Springfield 4-H Club; Gerrit Loo — Springfield 4-H Club; Kay Wall — New Annan 4-H Club.

P.E.I. Junior Farmers' Organization

The Prince Edward Island Junior Farmers' Organization successfully completed their sixth year.

The 1984 Executive Officers are: President: Kevin Jewell; Vice-President: Edwin Jewell; Secretary: Kim Sanderson; Treasurer: Susan MacKinnon.

The organization held five educational sessions which dealt with topics such as Acid Rain, Farm Tax Advise, Livestock Judging.

Gwyneth Jones, 4-H Co-ordinator, and Marco Diepman, Millview-Vernon 4-H Club, Interprovincial Exchange Delegate to Nova Scotia.

4-H Statistics 1984

District	Projects Completed	Clubs	Members	Junior Leaders	Senior Leaders
Souris	132	8	156	3	54
Montague	151	7	138	10	54
Charlottetown	391	14	383	25	111
Summerside	230	10	214	19	80
West Prince	90	3	86	9	19
TOTAL:	994	42	977	66	318

Event	Focus	Attendance
Atlantic 4-H Conference	"Speak-Up" 4-H	18
Provincial 4-H Camps	Exploring 4-H	111
4-H Executive Workshop	Effective Meetings	160
4-H Leaders Conference	4-H Leadership	119
4-H Livestock Conference	Livestock Selection & Breeding	90
4-H Provincial Judging Competition	Livestock Judging	21
4-H Judging Clinic	Livestock Judging - Beef & Swine Livestock Judging - Dairy & Sheep	100
4-H Day, Maritime Winter Fair	Livestock Showmanship	23
Rural Youth Fair	4-H Development	300
4-H Day, Provincial Exhibition	4-H Development	500

Engineering Section

The Engineering Section provides information and programs in planning and designing, farm buildings, farm machinery extension, soil and water conservation.

Conservation continues to be a strong focus of many engineering programs. Building designs are incorporating energy conserving designs and equipment. Machinery programs emphasize "conservation agriculture" (i.e. tillage systems that reduce erosion and conserve energy used in farm tillage operations.)

Engineering staff are involved in the development of farm drainage projects under the ERDA Land and Water Conservation Sub-Agreement and this increased activities during the last months of 1984.

The broad objective of the Engineering Section is to assist Prince Edward Island farmers in establishing or improving the efficiency of viable farms through the best use of available resources.

These programs are carried out with a staff of four agricultural engineers, two engineering technolgists and secretarial support.

Farm Building Extension Service

Farm building extension services are provided by the engineering supervisor/farm buildings engineer and the engineering technician in Charlottetown and the district engineer in Summerside.

During the year extension services were provided for the construction of 30 farm buildings with an estimated value of more than $2 million.

The draftsman and district engineer completed 60 new building plans. An additional 16 plans were revised and 21 charts, graphs and lettering jobs were completed. Approximately 200 plan sets and 300 information leaflets were distributed to producers. More than 250 farm visits were made to view on-site problems and construction progress. Approximately 175 office interviews were completed by the engineers; discussing plans, building information and ventilation systems for farm buildings.

Planning assistance and technical information was provided for Livestock Days, district office programs, technical workshops and farm organizations. Several group tours to new farm buildings were conducted. The engineers are also involved with programs of the Atlantic Committee on Agricultural Engineering, Advisory Committee on Structures and Equipment, Canada Plan Service and the Canadian and American Societies of Agricultural Engineering.

Potato Storages

The construction of 17 potato storages and two refrigerated vegetable storages accounted for the majority of new construction in 1984. Ten of these potato storages had environmental controlled systems installed. Total value of these storages is estimated at 1.75 million dollars and with a total storage capacity of 500,000 cwt.

In addition to providing detailed plans and on-site visits during construction for these storages, plans were provided for six additional storages and 15 farm calls were made regarding ventilation systems and management information. A fact sheet on "Operation of Through-The-Pile Ventilation Systems" was prepared.

Livestock Buildings

Dairy related plans included six calf and heifer facilities, one free stall barn, one tie stall barn and several dairy stable ventilation plans.

Beef building plans included two open front pole barns with offset ridge, one cattle handling facility and information regarding ventilation problems.

Swine building activity was limited to the construction of one modified open front hog feeder barn, two sow barns, three building renovations, one concrete manure storage and six retrofits to improve ventilation and energy efficiency in sow and weaner rooms.

One horse barn was constructed for heavy show horses.

General Buildings

Plans were provided for a poultry processing building, a small abbatoir, a cole crop processing building, a greenhouse, ventilation for livestock buildings, a large cereal seed cleaning plant and storage, hay storages, pole barns, machinery storages and other smaller farm structures.

Farm Machinery Extension Program

Farm machinery extension programs are carried out by the farm machinery specialist and include the following major program areas and activities.

Information Dissemination — Contacts with Prince Edward Island farmers continue to be a very important aspect of the machinery program. During the year approximately 200 individual contacts were made in servicing farmer requests for information. Timely information on farm machinery topics is disseminated through farm calls, office interviews, radio programs, T.V. interviews, fact sheet preparation and articles in Cornerpost.

Demonstration and Workshops — A 31-exhibit trade show was coordinated for the 1984 Soil and Crop Conference in Charlottetown.

The two-day Conservation Tillage Demonstration was coordinated with 12 equipment companies participating. Soil and energy conservation tillage machinery and practices were demonstrated to about 100 producers. Dr. Tony Vyn of University of Guleph was the resource person.

Chemical application demonstrations were organized and held three separate locations in Prince Edward Island. The latest in chemical application technology and equipment was demonstrated to about 60 producers.

Farm Safety — Assistance was given to the Farm Accident Rescue Workshop which was held for the benefit of medical and paramedical people. The machinery specialist also serves on the Safety Committee of the Federation of Agriculture. Instruction for the Agri-Crew Training Program was also provided.

A two-day demonstration of small scale equipment and technology was organized with 14 equipment companies participating. Approximately 150 part-time farmers attended.

Atlantic Committees — The Farm Machinery Specialist continues to assist with the organization of the bi-annual Atlantic Farm Machinery Show held in Moncton.

Soil and Water Conservation Program

Drainage advice for surface and subsurface moisture problems was given to producers by the soil and water engineer, district engineer and engineering technologist. Thirty-five surveys were developed for producers upon request to supplement this advice on moisture problems. Subsurface tile underdrainage was installed on seven farms by staff in conjunction with farmers and back-hoe operators.

The soil and water engineer and staff continued to work on a program of outlet identification and trouble shooting on existing drainage systems. Rehabilitation work was supervised on several of these systems with good success.

The soil and water engineer cooperated with other professional persons in developing a strategy for research and development in farmland drainage in Prince Edward Island.

The engineer has been involved in the preparation of guidelines and specifications for the new Federal/Provincial Land Conservation and Management Program funded by Agriculture Canada Regional Development Branch. A major engineering activity with this program has been the preparation of farm drainage plans by the soil and water engineer, engineering technician and district engineer. A total of 35 farm plans were completed.

The department maintained three subsoilers for use by the producers in alleviated drainage and soil compaction problems. Forty seven farmers used the subsoilers during the year.

Presentations were made to groups and associations on such topics as drainage, soil conservation, land management and windbreaks. A number of newspaper articles, fact sheets and radio tapes were made on these same topics. Forty six stream alteration permit applications were handled during the year.

The engineer was involved in two fence disputes under the Division Fence Act. Thirty six requests for information about the act and fencing were handled during the year. Proclamation of the Municipalities Act in November 1983 voided the Division Fence Act in all areas of the province covered by the Municipalities Act. Meetings and discussions with farmers and farm groups were undertaken to gain a concensus for implementing a new fence and livestock containment act.

Energy Conservation Project

Funding for the Prince Edward Island/Canada Agricultural Energy Conservation Demonstration Program ceased at the end of March, 1984. The project coordinator was funded by the Department of Agriculture for an additional eight weeks to conclude the 20 demonstration projects and publish the project report.

Small Farms Program

Introduction

This program offers a specialized on-farm extension service to small-scale and part-time farmers. It emphasizes economic development opportunities specifically designed for small farm operations, including appropriate information and technology, management of commodities, record keeping and development of information not available locally. The program also assists groups who wish to cooperate in collective projects and programs.

Staff

There are at present 10 trained Agricultural Resource Workers located throughout the province — five in Prince County; four in Queens County; one in Kings County. The program caseload is 473 families. Two of the 10 Agricultural Resource Workers provide specific services — one in working closely with blueberry growers and another in working with vegetable producers.

Small Farms Board

The Small Farms Board is made up of small-scale and/or part-time farmers. They advise the Minister on

Small Farms Program policy matters. The Board is chaired by Charles Duffy from Fort Augustus and it met four times during 1984.

Working With Groups

The program assisted several groups during the past year including the Rosebank Processor's Cooperative Limited; the proposed Tanning Facility for Southern Kings and Queens; the Kings County Farmers' Markets; and the marketing of wool for the P.E.I. Sheep Producers' Association.

The Small Farms Program organized a tour for 12 members of the Organic Growers' Association to attend the Tenth Annual Conference of the Natural Organic Growers' Association in New Hampshire.

Information Provided

A series of 21 non-commercial vegetable production fact sheets has been developed and are available from the Small Farms Office.

Two publications were prepared and distributed in 1984: "Home Curing and Smoking" and "Beef Production Manual for the 5 to 15 Cow Herd".

Master Gardener Program Begun

The year 1984 saw the beginning of the Master Gardener Program. A program which involved the use of well-experienced, local gardeners who volunteered to answer gardening questions. The volunteers were given extensive training and worked in conjunction with department staff.

Cream Survey Completed

A survey of Prince Edward Island's 267 cream producers was carried out during the year to determine the types of equipment used by cream producers in order to help them find spare parts. Suppliers of cream separators were also identified for the information of cream producers.

Demonstrations

On-farm demonstrations carried out during 1984 included: one cow-calf creep feeder in Prince County; one smokehouse in Kings County; a series of Reemay (season extension) demonstrations in various locations on Prince Edward Island; and 22 cold frame units for vegetable season extension located around the province.

The Small Farms Program worked in conjunction with the Crops Section on a Season Extension Techniques Demonstration Project.

The Small Farms blueberry fieldman cooperated with the Crops Section on a Blueberry Pruning Demonstration, a Propane Cannon Demonstration for bird control and a Blueberry Maggot Survey.

Statistical Summary — Small Farms Program

No. of Farms Served: 473

Ages of Farmers:	20-30	31-40	41-50	51 +
	67	120	114	172

Category of Farms:	Full-Time	Part-Time	Hobby
	213	219	41

Size of Farms (Acres):	0-10	11-50	51-100	101 +
	34	85	119	235

Commodities on Farms:

Forages	Beef	Grain	Cream	Forestry	Swine	Self-Sufficiency	Potatoes
253	248	218	152	93	92	56	53

Poultry	Market Garden	Vegetables	Blueberries	Horses	Sheep
52	50	42	49	39	30

Organic Farming	Strawberries	Bees	Dairy Goats	Waterfowl	Fur
20	17	15	15	15	12

Courses

Ten farmers attended a four-day Draft Horse Course organized by the Small Farms Program in cooperation with the P.E.I. Draft Horse Association and with the financial assistance from C.E.I.C.

Approximately 20 people attended an information day organized by the Small Farms Program on growing and marketing asparagus.

Thirty people attended a two-part short course on Tree Fruit Production involving sessions on management and pruning techniques.

An evening session on Novel Food Crops for Profit was held in conjunction with the Souris District Office with 10 people in attendance.

The Small Farms Program assisted the P.E.I. Soil and Crop Improvement Association in organizing two afternoon sessions on Ecological Agriculture and Season Extension.

An information meeting on Maple Syrup Production was held with a guest speaker from Nova Scotia and a tour of a sugarbush in Milltown Cross organized

New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers

The New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers initiated a Small Farm Development Project in 1982-83 and this project is ongoing. Each jurisdiction provides technical expertise and a small amount of financial support for project activities. The Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture used the capabilities of the Small Farms Program to provide this province's contribution to the project. Three major individual projects are being carried out on a cooperative regional basis. They include marketing of small volume commodities, small-scale and appropriate-scaled technology and the development of an educational television series for small-scale and part-time farm operations.

Crops Section

The staff of the Crops Section continued to provide farm operators in Prince Edward Island with the latest information and services during 1984. Some of the highlights of the year include:

- *the Cropping Systems for Profit Seminar and Trade Show;*
- *formation of the P.E.I. Horticultural Association as a group representing commercial vegetable growers in Prince Edward Island;*
- *expansion of field trials on Season Extension Techniques*

Cereals

Yields of cereals were slightly higher in 1984 compared to 1983. Winter cereals overwintered well with good yields for both wheat and rye. Fall seedings of winter wheat (1984) were up substantially, stimulated by the good yields and price received for the 1984 crop, as well as the increased desire for control of erosion.

The Quality Seed Assistance Program was continued with over 600 applications processed.

The Programmed Cereal Management Project was conducted in cooperation with the P.E.I. Soil and Crop Improvement Association, using growth regulators to reduce lodging and fungicides to control plant diseases. Supplemental nitrogen was added at various stages of development to evaluate the proper stage of plant development to increase nitrogen to get an economical return in yield. Yields exceed 110 bu./acre with optimum management.

Soybeans

The soybean crop reached 2500 acres this season with the average yield about 35 bushels per acre and the top producers achieving 50-70 bu./acre with Maple Amber.

Peas

Pea acreage remains low; however, the top producers achieved 40 bu./acre of peas this season with the variety Finale.

Forage Crops

Tame hay acreage remained relatively stable; however, better management practices and a trend to alfalfa and ryegrass species increased the quality and protein content of the forage crop. New forage varieties with different maturity dates permit programmed harvesting to ensure the total crop is harvested at the optimum stage of development.

A higher percentage of the forage crop is being stored as haylage. Barn driers are used in many operations to assist in making top quality hay.

The corn silage acreage continued to drop slightly with the 1984 corn crop of excellent maturity and quality. Grain corn was successfully produced on some farms this season.

Pastures

Farmers are sowing new mixtures of grasses and legumes which give higher yields of higher quality pastures. Both perennial and annual ryegrasses give good growth and high protein levels when managed properly. Overall pasture management is improving as farmers manage their pastures more intensively through timed fertilizer applications, better weed control and rotational grazing. Forage kales were experimented with this season in an effort to extend the grazing season.

Direct Seeders

The concept of direct seeding forages was again demonstrated extensively with the brillion seeders in each agricultural district.

SeCan Association

SeCan Association is a unique partnership of seed growers, seed firms and government departments dedicated to production and marketing of new varieties of crops developed in Canada. This department has a representative on the Board of Directors who attended their annual meeting in 1984. Some of the varieties recommended in the Atlantic region distributed through SeCan are Milton and Vernon spring wheats; Bruce, Leger and Micmac barley; Shaw and Sentinel oats; and Valor and Borden winter wheats.

C.S.G.A.

The Department of Agriculture is represented on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association and the representative attended their annual meeting and their Directors' meeting in Ottawa to discuss the latest issues in the seed grain industry.

The Canada Seed Act and Weed Seeds Order have been revised. A request has been made to the C.S.G.A. by the three Maritime Provinces to have a zero tolerance for Wild Oats in cereal seed sold in the Maritimes.

Soil and Crop Improvement Association

The P.E.I. Soil and Crop Improvement Association is a producer-operated organization whose prime role is to improve the soil while increasing crop yields with the ultimate goal being higher net incomes to farmers. The Crops Section works closely with the association. Demonstration and trial projects on members' farms have taken place in five agricultural districts across the province.

Testing of cereal and forage crops using the newest varieties available constituted a major part of soil and crop activities.

The Soil and Crop Improvement Association in cooperation with the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture and Agriculture Canada sponsored a Cropping Systems for Profit Seminar and Trade Show, outlining concepts in the production and marketing of cereal grains, forages, protein crops, potatoes, horticultural, greenhouse and vegetable crops, as well as new concepts in tillage, erosion control and pesticide technology. Over 1,000 farmers attended this seminar.

Projects were conducted in each agricultural district on testing programmed cereal management on winter cereals, spring wheat and barley. The association rented equipment and demonstrated the benefits of this new management system. In addition, more demonstrations were conducted in soil management erosion control and new rotational systems. An air cushion spray boom was demonstrated this season. This new boom eliminates spray drift during windy conditions. Demonstrations continued under this program in pasture renovation, direct seeding winter and spring cereals into stubble ground.

Tobacco

Extension efforts consisted of the publication of the Tobacco Production Recommendation for Prince Edward Island as well as extensive on-farm calls. Grower inquiries on insects, diseases, weeds and other crop production problems were answered by staff through regular on-farm visits and other district contact. A representative cross-section of 17 Island tobacco producers were selected for participation in a long-term soil-tissue-cured leaf nutrient-alkaloid analysis program.

Assistance was also given by the Research Station staff to the tobacco variety trials, as well as the establish-

Tobacco Production Figures: 1981-84

Year	No. of Farms	Acres	Production In Lbs.	Average Yield Per Acre	Value In Dollars
1981	68	3,855	6,714,967	1,741	$10,296,000
1982	71	4,126	7,394,100	1,792	12,000,000
1983	79	4,400	8,083,609	1,837	13,096,419
1984	81	4,300	8,580,100*	1,995*	14,459,901*

*Estimated Only

ment of 12 on-farm demonstration sites for promising tobacco cultivars.

Other activities included attendance at many tobacco board meetings, grower meetings, the August Annual Field Day, organization of the annual sales day and the editing of newsletters on both the production and curing of tobacco.

Although the early part of the growing season seemed unfavourable, weather conditions throughout the summer and fall made the 1984 tobacco crop the most productive on record. Production in 1984 on approximately 4,300 acres of tobacco yielded an estimated 8.6 million pounds of high-quality tobacco, with the dollar value approaching 14.5 million.

Greenhouse

The 1984 season was highlighted by the expansion in use of alternate fuels and increased production in tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers and lettuce. Bedding plant sales remained stable from previous years. Imported products remain the major obstacle to expansion.

This year also saw the formation of the P.E.I. Greenhouse Growers' Association.

Newsletters were prepared and sent on a regular basis covering production and management information. Grower inquiries on insects, diseases, weeds and other production problems were answered by staff through regular calls and direct contact.

Vegetables

Extension activities included distribution of newsletters on production and management topics to vegetable producers throughout the growing season.

Grower inquiries on insects, diseases, weeds and other crop production problems were answered by staff through regular phone calls, on-farm visits and other direct contact.

Staff assisted cole crop producers with getting seed, and cauliflower transplants, the scheduling of production and conducting regular scoutings of field during the season.

The P.E.I. Horticultural Association Inc. was incorporated in 1984 and a number of extension activities were undertaken in conjunction with the association such as: a producer tour to Nova Scotia and new Brunswick, horticultural speakers at the Cropping Systems for Profit Conference, a local field-day and tour, vegetable cultivar evaluation trial and attendance at the National Agricultural Plastics Association Conference, Asheville, North Carolina.

Field trials on Season Extension Techniques included evaluation of tunnel houses, black and clear plastic mulch, supported and floating row covers and floating mulches on transplanted and direct seeded crops of tomatoes, peppers, celery, lettuce, cucumbers and corn. A pot mulch planter and bed shaper were acquired for evaluation and a machine was adapted to lay Reemay (a floating mulch), and was field tested.

Staff also participated in initiating a complete rewrite of the Atlantic Provinces Vegetable Production Recommendations.

Weather conditions were favourable in 1984 and helped to produce good yields. Marketing continues to be a problem. Several of the larger growers decreased their acreages but the slack was taken up by small and/or new growers.

Strawberries

Crop Estimates:

Acres (fruiting)	400
Provincial average yield	4,000 qts./acre
Total Crop - 1,600,000 qts.	**Avg. Price**
Fresh - (45% of Crop)	$ .95/qt.
Pick-Your-Own (35% of Crop)	.45/lb.
Processing - (20% of Crop)	.25/lb.

Extension Activities

Five newsletters were prepared and mailed to growers.

The small fruit specialist cooperated with the marketing staff in the testing of strawberry varities as individually quick frozen berries.

Vegetable Crop Estimates	**Approx. acreage**	**Avg. Price**
Brussels Sprouts	160	.19/lb.
Broccoli	25	.20/lb.
Cauliflower	60	.19/lb.
Cabbage	100	.07/lb.
Carrots & Parsnips	170	Carrots .10/lb. Parsnips .20/lb.
Rutabagas	450	.06/lb.
Lettuce	40	$ 3./doz.
Peas	4500-5000	$300./ac.
Cucumbers	25	.15/lb.
Corn	50	$1.25/doz.
Onions	10	.10/lb.

P.E.P. Projects

The small fruits crop specialist acted as a resource person for various P.E.P. projects with the Strawberry Growers' Assoc., Vegetable Growers' Co-op, and the West Prince Industrial Commission.

Certified Strawberry Program

Three certified nurseries on Prince Edward Island sold 365,950 plants (on orders over 500). One of the certified nurserymen has also been designated as a Foundation grower.

A fourth nursery field-planted micropropogated strawberries in 1984.

Strawberry Growers' Association

The small fruits specialist assists the association with extension advice, and provides organizational support when requested.

LOWBUSH BLUEBERRIES

1984 crop is estimated at 700,000 lbs. with the average price from processors - .30/lb.

The crop suffered varying degrees of bird damage, a June frost, Monilinia blight and drought, which reduced yields in the central and eastern areas. Prices from the processors were down significantly from 1983.

Extension Activities

- Four newsletters were prepared and mailed to growers;
- Two-day short courses were held in March at both Montague and O'Leary, with about 14 growers attending each session;
- Two insect identification meetings were held in Charlottetown and Tignish with about 10 growers at each;
- A factsheet was prepared on the basic steps involved with land development;
- A propane cannon was used to demonstrate bird control;
- A back-pack sprayer and burner was purchased to facilitate demonstration work;
- About eight growers borrowed the 3-point hitch sprayer to apply herbicides;
- The association has approximately 40 members;
- A field-day was held in August in the Mt. Vernon area;
- The annual meeting was held in November with 30 present.

Land Development

The land development grant program was completed March 31, 1984. The Small Fruits Specialist worked with district office staff to complete final inspections by that deadline.

P.E.I. Blueberry Growers' Association

- An extensive blueberry maggot survey across the province involving 18 growers (checking both sticky yellow traps and berry samples) indicate that maggot numbers were down in West Prince but in some cases were up in the Mt. Stewart area. Most growers do not spray routinely.
- The small fruits specialist and various growers attended out-of-province meetings, including Wild Blueberry Association of North America Annual Meeting (Halifax), Wild Blueberry Workers' Conference (Bangor, Maine), Nova Scotia Blueberry Producers' Association Field Day (Cumberland Co.).
- The Small Fruits Specialist worked in cooperation with the Small Farms Program, on several projects already mentioned, as well as applying Cygon for maggot control, and demonstrating pruning methods (back-pack burner, rotary mower and flail mower).
- A pruning project was evaluted involving the application of straw using a Big Bale Buster.
- Eighteen fields aross the province were surveyed for the relationship between leaf tissue levels and soil nutrient levels.
- A survey was also done to determine the extent of Monilinia blight in fruiting fields.

Raspberries

There are approximately 25 acres of raspberries in production. Yields were reduced in 1984 due to drought conditions and disease. Two newsletters were distributed to growers. An information meeting was held in May. A research scientist from Michaud Experimental Farm visited four P.E.I. farms in July. A factsheet was prepared on recommended varieties for Prince Edward Island.

Tree Fruit

A factsheet was prepared on the renovation of old fruit trees.

Home Gardens

The small fruit specialist assisted in the training program for the Master Gardener Program and also answered various general inquiries throughout the season.

Honeybee Extension

- Six newsletters were mailed to beekeepers;
- A one-day introductory short course was held in conjunction with the Beekeepers' Association (25 attended);
- Honey grading equipment was made avilable; approximately 30 samples were analyzed;
- An out-door overwintering demonstration was held (10 attended);
- The Provincial Apiarist and three beekeepers attended an emergency meeting in Nappan, Nova Scotia re the Acarine mite, a serious new pest of honey bees;
- Factsheets prepared — a) Honeybee Health, b) Recommendations for Feeding Drugs to Bees, c) Honeybees and Pesticide Safety.

Honeybees

Crop Estimates:

Number of Beekeepers	200
Number of Bee Colonies	1200
Average Yields	90 lbs.
Total Provincial Crop	108,000 pounds
Number of Bees Ordered Through the P.E.I. Beekeepers' Association	648 packages
Number of Queens Ordered	77

Yields were down somewhat from 1983.

Apiary Inspection Act

Four part-time inspectors were hired, and an effort was made to map all apiaries and to produce a card file.

P.E.I. Beekeepers' Cooperative Association

The association hosted the 1984 Maritime Beekeepers' Association summer tour (140 attended).

An improved promotional booth was manned at two summer fairs and two P.E.P. projects were sponsored: overwintering bees, and bees for pollination.

Two general meetings were held.

The president attended an emergency meeting in Winnipeg re the acarine mite situation.

Crop Production Management

Staff had 30 articles on crop management published in Cornerpost. They also prepared more than 20 different fact sheets for non-commercial producers and three fact sheets on computers on the farm. New letterhead for Raspberry, Greenhouse, Tree Fruit and Vegetable Newsletters were designed.

A P.E.I. Agricultural Production Management Program — Long Term Record Book was also designed.

Weeky crop reports were issued to the media throughout the growing season. Learning materials were prepared for a variety of short courses with considerble emphasis on Forage Courses and Farm Financial Management for Potato Growers. Scripts were prepared for two film strips — Today's Farmer: Meeting the Challenges In Agriculture and Conservation Tillage. Progress was made in developing a number of computerized crop budgets.

Home Gardens

In 1984 two summer students were hired to provide home owners with assistance on home gardening problems. The students were located in Summerside and Charlottetown. The Summerside student answered a total of 406 calls. The Charlottetown student worked in cooperation with master gardeners and answered more than 250 calls.

Livestock Section

The Livestock Section was involved with all aspects of the livestock industry in 1984. The major emphasis was on upgrading the productivity and efficiency of Prince Edward Island producers through improved management, information and technical services.

Major activities included:

- *continuous efforts to improve milking systems and to control mastitis in dairy herds;*
- *providing Dairy Herd Analysis Services to assist producers with herd management;*
- *maintaining an effective A.I. service and selection of sires for both dairy and beef;*
- *continued quality forage information program;*
- *ration formulation for all classes of livestock;*
- *R.O.P. services for beef, sheep and swine to assist in selecting breeding stock;*
- *extension programs emphasizing the efficiency and management for beef and swine;*

  continuation of "Livestock Days" to provide coordinated programs to supply information to all livestock producers;
- *disease testing services as quality and management extension information to poultry producers.*

The additional capabilities of a micro-computer helped with:

- *a Beef Weaning Weight Program for commercial herds;*
- *P.E.I. Sow Productivity Program;*
- *Beef Backgrounder ration formulation program;*
- *Dairy ration formulation;*
- *Beef, Swine, Lamb ration formulation.*

The computer allowed much more efficient manipulation and use of data in the following areas: mailing lists; Somatic Cell Count; Swine R.O.P. data and Community Pasture billing.

DAIRY

General

The Dairy industry continued to have problems for control of the industry. The appointed interim P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board was replaced by an elected Board during the year.

The industry at the end of 1984 consists of the following:

	Dec. 1984	Dec. 1983
Industrial Producers	478	501
Fluid Producers	139	140
Cream Producers	259	303

Prince Edward Island lost a number of producers during 1984 due to financial difficulties. The cream sector showed a reduction of 3.6 per cent in production despite requests in 1983 for more quota. Prince Edward Island producers utilized 99.3 per cent of the allotted 2,966 kgs. M.S.Q. for the 1983-84 dairy year. Quality control became a very important item because of a salmonella contamination in cheese. This was traced to farm sanitation problems.

In the artificial breeding area, American Breeders Services' direct marketing and servicing caused concern for the P.E.I. Artificial Breeders' Association by threatening the viability of the present system which supplies a service on an equal basis to all cattle owners. First services for the P.E.I. Artificial Breeders' Assocoation increased less than 1 per cent to 18,930.

D.H.A.S.

The Dairy Herd Analysis Service provides a management service for dairy producers through a staff of six supervisors.

DAIRY HERD ANALYSIS STATISTICS - 1983/1984

	Year	Number of Herds with Completed Records	Kg. Milk Per Year	% Butterfat
Owner Sample	1983	110	5532	3.68
	1984	99	5765	3.67
Official	1983	34	6081	3.66
	1984	43	6294	3.66
Program Average	1983	144	5662	3.67
	1984	142	5926	3.67

In December 1984, D.H.A.S. had 166 herds and approximately 5,400 cows enrolled. Of these; 60 herds and 2,300 cows were on the official option. This was an increase of 12 herds on the official option from 1983.

There was a waiting list of 18 names for the official program at the end of 1984.

The owner-sample program can accept more participants but the demand is still less than predicted.

In 1984 D.H.A.S. signed on 10 new herds and lost 15 herds for the following reasons: 4 herds due to discontinuation of the farm business, 3 due to transfers to R.O.P. and 8 herds for other reasons.

The D.H.A.S. staff continued to promote the National Identification Program for dairy cattle. This year the program was revamped with a new style certificate. In 1984, 779 new animals were enrolled.

Importation of Breeding Stock

The Department assisted with the importation of 71 head of dairy breeding stock at a cost of $7,678.

Prince Edward Island show cattle performed well outside the province, particularly Ayrshires and Holsteins at Springfield, Massachusetts.

Extension Efforts

The program to reduce suoclinical mastitis and improving milk quality involved farmers, veterinarians, quality control, micro-biology staff and milking equipment dealers. Summary of activities are:

1) - 85 Milk Equipment and Producer calls
   - 15 stray voltage and other farm calls

2) Dairy Sanitation Seminar was organized and attended by:
   - 12 staff
   - 10 processing plant representatives
   - 11 equipment dealer representatives

2) Workshop was organized on stray voltage and was attended by:
   - 35 electrical contractors
   - 8 staff
   - 8 Maritime Electric and provincial inspection staff

Other extension activities organized were:
- Dairy Home Study course (new) — 22 participants
- Milking School for Farm Women (new) — 22 participants
- Dairy Session at Livestock Days — 116 participants
- Assistance at sales
- providing information through radio programs, Cornerpost articles, etc.
- selection of breeding stock and sire selection;

4) Guidelines were developed for milking machine installations in Prince Edward Island, in consultation with private companies.

Beef

The beef industry showed more stability in 1984. Positive developments were the announcement of a new kill and chill plant for Charlottetown, as well as prices higher than the previous year. Both factors tended to take some uncertainty out of the beef markets.

Cattle slaughtered at federally inspected plants were down by 5 per cent to 22,900 head of P.E.I. origin as of December 11, 1984.

There were 9,000 cattle slaughtered in provincially inspected slaughterhouses, down 22 per cent from the previous year.

Beef R.O.P.

In 1984 there were 86 herds on R.O.P. with 1,009 animals starting test and 953 completing test.

The fall weaning weighings have been completed with the same number of producers testing animals but fewer purebred bulls being tested. Nappan Bull Test Station saw a further increase in the number of purebred bulls being tested with 42 bulls either on test or completing test during the summer. One of the P.E.I. bulls on summer test broke the Maritime record for yearling weight: a new record of 1,487 pounds.

Policies

During 1984 the Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture bonused 87 bulls with total assistance of $38,000. Assistance of $100 per head for registered females imported into the province was paid on 21 animals.

Extension Activities

The Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the P.E.I. Cattlemen's Association, worked to improve the quality of feeder sales on Prince Edward Island. A new feature this year was a spring feeder sale at which about 250 feeders of good quality sold at good prices. The numbers sold at two fall feeder sales were higher than in 1983 at approximately 250 head each. The quality of the cattle, however, can still be improved.

A **weaning weight program** for cow-calf producers was started during 1984. To date, nine producers have weighed 175 calves. Features of the program include a computerized printout of the calf crop which provides adjusted weaning weights of each calf, average

weights for the herd, etc. This information is being used as a basis for management decisions in breeding, feeding, etc.

A **beef carcass appraisal program** was started in June, 1984. This program is designed to provide information to those farmers producing finished cattle, concerning the quality of animals being produced. Each week a report is sent out on the carcasses present at Garden Province Meats. The report contains information on weights, dressing percentage, fat measurements and the grader's comments about the carcasses. About 700 carcasses have been evaluated to date.

Other projects worked on during the year included further input into developing **the Beef A.I. program and development of computer programs** for beef. Technical assistance was provided on the following projects — veal production, backgrounder and estrus synchronization for beef cows. A project was also completed which demonstrated electric fencing, strip grazing and extended season grazing on a cow-calf operation.

Information activities included a bi-monthly beef newsletter, Cornerpost articles, radio, etc.. Beef Day emphasized new management systems and the use of pastures to improve the profitability of beef farms. Assistance was provided to district offices in carrying out beef courses, (i.e. handling facilities, beef carcass appraisal, tours to Ontario.)

Sheep

The sheep industry is feeling the effect of the recession. In 1984 prices for purebred sheep drifted lower and markets for lamb were still under pressure.

Marketing

The majority of lamb marketings during the past year were through the P.E.I. Lamb Co-op or sold at the farm gate. The Co-op has marketed 1,000 lambs during the year. The producers from the Maritimes, Quebec and eastern United States have been meeting to try and solve some of the marketing problems.

R.O.P.

One thousand and twenty-nine lambs were started on test and 814 completed test. During recent years, a higher percentage of the lambs being tested are from commercial lamb producers as opposed to an increase in purebred flocks. Eighteen rams were bonused under the Ram Bonus Policy which assists on the purchase of superior rams.

Policies, Etc.

Assistance was also paid on 153 ewe lambs under the Ewe Retention Policy. The policy provides assistance to producers who retain extra ewe lambs over the winter.

The Sheep Killed By Dogs Policy was discontinued as insurance is available from private insurance companies to cover those losses.

Extension activities during the year included a tour of sheep farms in Quebec, a sheep newsletter and assistance with an estrus synchronization program and a production sale.

Swine

General

The year 1984 was difficult for the swine industry in Prince Edward Island. Producers saw an increase in feed costs over 1983 and a market price for hogs well below the stabilization price for most of the year. Only during July and August were prices close to, or above stabilization levels. A number of highly leveraged producers are feeling the effects of the low prices and a few were forced out of business.

In spite of these problems and partly in anticipation if increased requirements for the proposed plants, hog slaughter of P.E.I. origin was up by 12.5 per cent over 1983 to approximately 173,000 head.

R.O.P. and Policies

There are 32 farms participating in the R.O.P. program. Thirteen farmers use the backfat measuring program regularly and sell breeding stock. The remainder probe animals on an occasional basis, mostly for the selection of breeding herd replacements.

The Animal Industry Branch now supplies a staff member to probe the "minimum disease" herds, while the Livestock Section of the Extension Branch continues to service the "regular" purebred and commercial herds.

The Boar and Gilt Bonus Policy was modified in both the funding and qualification criteria — effective July, 1984.

Statistics

Home Test Boars	**Qualified**	**Disqualified**
.Old Program	478	69
.New Program	240	113
TOTAL	718	182
Gilts		
.Old Program	928	86
.New Program	597	104
TOTAL	1,525	190

Quality Swine
Boars 86
Gilts 790

Station Tested Boars
42 Boars from 4 Breeders

Assistance was provided for the purchase of 252 boars and 1,040 gilts.

Extension Activities

Staff continue to emphasize the importance of extension activities to keep producers up to date. A delay in a final agreement for a new kill and chill plant have made it difficult to advise farmers on planning for the future.

New activities in 1984 were:

- the development of a Swine Newsletter published in cooperation with the Island Farmer;
- a computerized "Swine Productivity Program" which uses monthly total herd information to calculate the most efficient ratio necessary for management decisions; three producers are participating;
- a four-day Swine Farm Financial Management Course was developed and offered for the first time in 1984 in West Prince.

Other extension work was continued such as district, provincial and out-of-province information meetings and tours, Cornerpost articles, radio, fact sheets, ratio formulations, etc.

Producers were assisted in applying for Productivity Enhancement Programs and staff were involved in demonstrating or advising on some projects.

There was increased interest in using alternate feed sources such as potatoes, crab meat, etc..

Nutrition

Feed Testing and Ration Formulation

In 1984, 3,015 samples were processed for farmers and 877 feed samples were processed for non-farmers.

The number of requests for rations based on field analysis continues to increase each year. In addition to regular requests from farmers, feed companies use feed testing and ration formulation service for their clients. Ration formulations are carried out by computer. The nutritionist was required to prepare diets for projects under the Agriculture Canada Productivity Enhancement Program. These projects included Whole Soybean Project total mixed rations for dairy cattle, rye feeding trials, veal calf program and backgrounder beef program.

Forage Quality Control

This was the second year the forage quality evaluations were presented on a weekly basis on radio and in local newspapers. The purpose of this program is to encourage farmers to harvest their forages at the optimum harvest dates to insure maximum quality.

Extension

It is impossible for the nutritionist to respond on an individual basis to all requests during the fall months due to the number of samples being submitted. With this in mind, we are attempting to have district staff involved in making contact with producers where it is evident from feed analysis that there is a problem with their feed.

The most significant development in this division during the past year has been the way computers were accepted and now used on a routine basis by a number of staff.

Poultry

Table Egg Production

Thirty-four producers are registered with the P.E.I. Egg Marketing Board, representing 120,000 layers. The balance of the P.E.I. quota of 24,000 layers is on farms with less than 300 birds each.

All layer flocks were blood sampled for mycoplasma gallipaticum and mycoplasma synoviac infection (460 samples).

One farm was depopulated becuase of an I.L.T. infection (15,000 birds).

Waterfowl Production

The demand for day-old waterfowl is very good. However, our one hatchery had production problems and did not produce. Our locally finished waterfowl is in strong demand during the fall season. Production is estimated at 6,000 birds for 1984.

Broiler and Roaster Production

Approximately 219,000 broilers and 75,000 roasters were grown in 1984 which is a decrease of 130,000 broilers in 1984; roasters had a slight increase. The one large broiler grower went into receivership and no other producer has started production.

Turkey Production

A total of approximately 1,000 broiler turkeys and 18,000 heavy turkeys were grown thic year. This is a modest increase over 1983.

Other

The legislation regarding egg and poultry production is being updated.

The P.E.I. Marketing Council has disbanded the Poultry Meat Commodity Marketing Board and is presently assuming the duties of the board. Sixteen hatchery flocks were blood tested for pullorum typhoid disease. No reactions were found.

The Egg Promotion Committee was active during the year. This is a cooperative effort between the Department of Agriculture and the P.E.I. Market Development Center and the Egg Commodity Marketing Board.

Major projects completed were workshops at 23 senior citizens homes as well as in store promotion projects.

Egg Quality Programs included on-farm evaluation of ungraded eggs, wash water sampling and Haug-Unit testing for quality on all of our larger Island flocks over nine months of age. On-farm egg handling and storage facilities are continually being improved and updated to meet a higher quality standard.

Fur

Ranch furs marketed for the 1983-84 season were 8,910 mink and 10,578 fox.

This was the first time that a portion of Island fur was marketed through a European auction.

Miscellaneous

The Livestock Section provided assistance to 15 different livestock breed associations.

Assistance was provided to 29 individuals showing livestock at Maritime Fairs and to 11 individuals showing at the Royal Winter Fair.

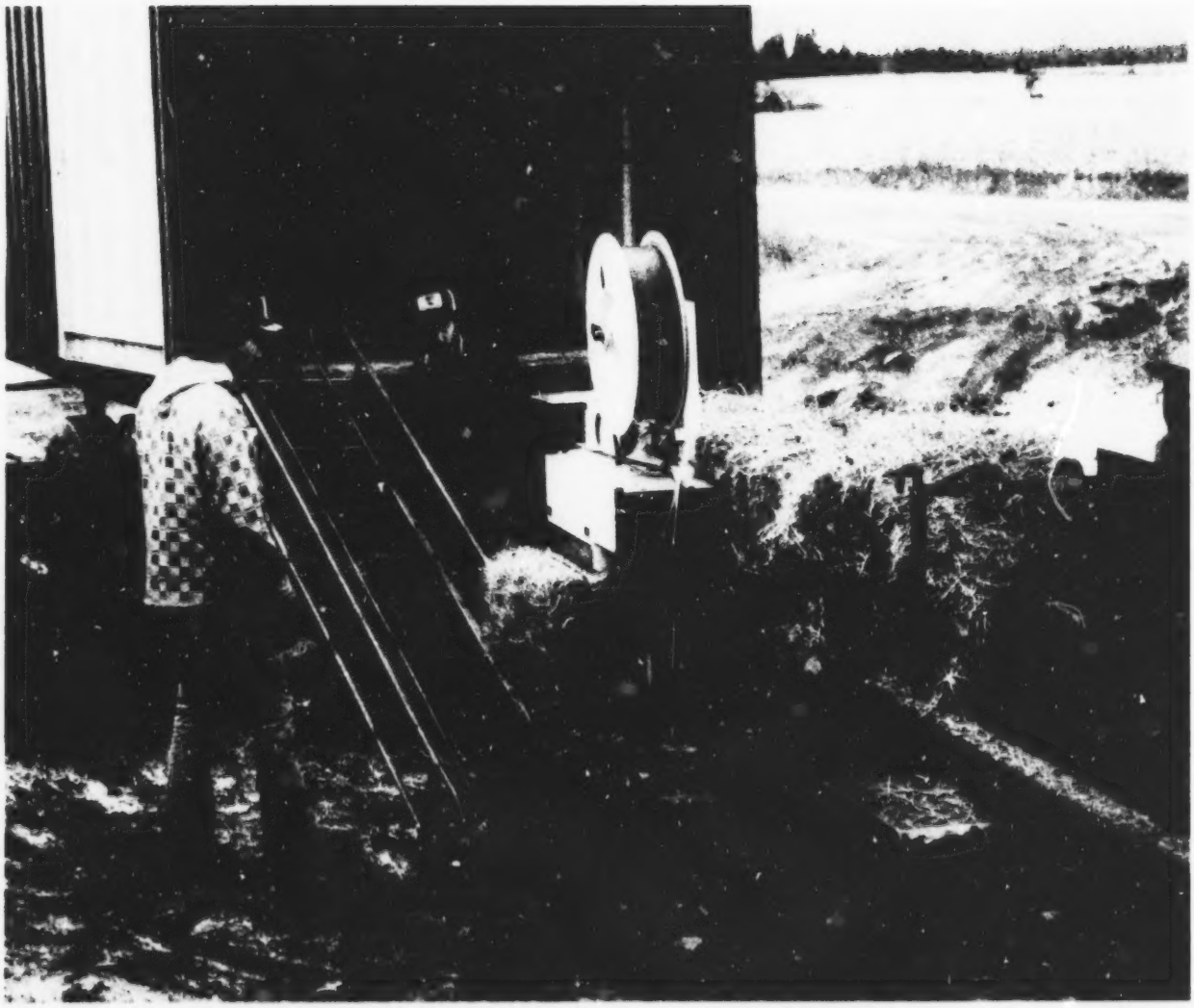
The Department paid a grant towards 65 foals under the Draft Horse Improvement Policy.

Livestock Section staff assisted in producing newsletters and organizing information meetings about horses, fur-bearing animals and poultry on an as-requested basis.

In 1984, the Community Pasture Program became the responsibility of the Livestock Section, Extension Services Branch. The following statistics summarize the year's efforts.

COMMUNITY PASTURE SUMMARY - 1984

	Kellys Cross	Central (Ellerslie)	Wellington	Lauretta	Head of Hillsboro
Number of Cattle	754	1,041	644	456	134
Av. Days on Pasture	134	128	129	122	136
Number of Calves		44	13	23	
Av. Days on Pasture		133	89	106	
Number of Head Weighed On & Off	351	476	185		
Av. Daily Gain	1.91	1.53	1.85		



Marketing Branch

The Branch offers marketing assistance, expertise and programs to farm organizations, commodity groups, associations, cooperatives and individuals. In cooperation with other branches within the Department, other government departments and agencies, the Marketing Branch's objectives are to tie together production initiatives to market opportunities, to identify new markets, to provide market research where required, to provide an analysis of marketing opportunities including outlook and forecasting and information, and to provide commodity promotion and educational programs. It also provides alternatives for market organization particularly for establishing commodity groups, and to provide a planning and statistical analysis service and it represents the Department on a number of intergovernmental committees, task forces, and working groups where marketing, planning and statistical issues are being discussed.

During 1984, the Marketing Branch reached its structural and organizational objective of having in place a full staff complement covering all major commodity marketing areas. The assignment of a livestock marketing coordinator and, late in the year, the appointment of a potato marketing coordinator rounded out and gave the branch the resources to more effectively deal with marketing issues.

The branch continued its responsibility for the development and coordination of the agricultural planning process in 1984. The Planning Secretariat made up of senior departmental staff and chaired by the Branch Director, is responsible for establishing the broad terms of reference for planning and making policy recommendations to the Minister. Two planning officers are attached to the Branch who provide support services to the work plan as determined by the Planning Secretariat. During 1984 a great amount of time was devoted to the planning of agricultural programs for the agricultural development agreement which was signed in June, 1984.

The Marketing Branch Director was the Department's representative on the Red Meat Plant Negotiating Committee throughout much of 1984.

The Branch Director serves on the Prince Edward Island Marketing Council. The P.E.I. Marketing Council is responsible for the supervision of the activities of commodity marketing boards operating under the Natural Products Marketing Act.

Branch staff have been working closely with and assisting the Board of Directors of the P.E.I. Grain Elevators Corporation in their effort to make the Grain Elevator Corporation more visible and more viable. The Branch Director services as Special Advisor to the Board of Directors. Canagrex, a federal government crown corporation, became operational in December 1983. The Branch Director served on the Policy Advisory Committee of Canagrex until the Corporation's disbandonment late in 1984. Canagrex was established to promote, facilitate and engage in the export of agricultural and food products and services from Canada.

On a regional basis, the director represented the Department on the Atlantic Committee on Food and the Atlantic Committee on Marketing and Distribution. The purpose of these committees is to provide a forum for exchanging ideas and for joint action on a number of issues relating to marketing.

Two important studies were coordinated by the Branch in 1984. Spatial planning Inc. of Charlottetown was awarded a contract to make recommendations on the "organizational structure" and mandate of both the Prince Edward Island Potato Marketing Board and the Prince Edward Island Potato Producers Association. The study recommendations are in the hands of the Board and the Association.

The Branch retained the services of John MacAnulty of the Canadian Livestock Feed Board in Montreal to undertake a study of the operations of the Elevator Corporation. This study has been completed and the recommendations are being assessed by the Elevator Corporation and the Department.

Following are highlights of Branch activities and achievements in 1984 in more detail.

Planning

The Planning unit provides strategic and operational planning support to the Department in general and to the Planning Secretariat in particular. It also provides analytical, review and evaluation support services.

Working from a draft five year commodity based agricultural plan completed in November 1983, the planning effort of the Department for 1984 concentrated on the five year Economic and Regional Development Agreement (E.R.D.A.) signed this past summer between the Province and Canada. The Department's planning efforts was particularly concerned with the Agricultural Sub-agreement signed in June 1984. Since that time work has concentrated on the initiation of programming of the sub-agreement and on preparation for a joint multi-year evaluation which will be carried out in cooperation with Agriculture Canada.

Support was provided to the operation of the Planning Secretariat including preparation of major packages of information for discussion and for forwarding to other appropriate agencies. These included new initiatives for development of agriculture which were proposed to central agencies, and suggestions for operation of federal programs which are supported by provincial extension services.

On behalf of the Department, the Planning unit provides the Agricultural Planning Coordinating Services with Provincial Central Agencies such as the Policy Board, Intergovernmental Affairs and the Treasury Board.

Support has been provided to the joint Teledon computer project with the University of Prince Edward Island.

Staff of the unit sit on the Small Farm Development Advisory Board and on the board of directors of the Land Development Corporation.

The unit also represents Prince Edward Island for the Newfoundland/Prince Edward Island Renewable Resource Agreement. Via this agreement, possible joint resource development ventures are being developed.

The unit provides planning and analytical support to the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers Small Farm Development Project.

Liaison to Women's Institute

In support of the role of Women's Institute as a large rural organization, the Branch provides liaison between the Department and the Board of Directors. The Department provided staff support for leadership development programs, conference workshops, activities to increase producer-consumer understanding, and joint sponsorship of food preservation information service. (Complete details of the projects are included in the report from Women's Institute).

Home Economics Program Support

Through participation in the Home Economics Coordinating Committee, support is provided to the home economics service by coordination of activities with Women's Institute. In addition, linkage to home economics services in other provinces is provided through participation in the Canadian Agricultural Extension Council through which information is shared on program resources and operation with members of the Coordinating Committee.

Livestock Marketing

Dairy Producer Survey

Assistance was provided to the P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board in a random survey of 100 milk producers early in January. The purpose of the survey was to assess production trends for the current dairy year. Information collected was compiled to provide a forecast of milk production. The survey indicated that Island producers would come very close to filling the province's market share quota. At the end of July when the dairy year was completed 99.3 per cent of the total market share quota had been met.

Beef

Beef producers, through the Cattlemen's Association, were assisted in assessing the opportunities and constraints associated with marketing beef locally as well as out-of-province. Several abatoirs and retail outlets were visited in an attempt to determine consumer demand patterns, merchandising methods, source of beef supply as well as opportunities and/or problems associated with retailing local beef. One of the major demands of retailers is for a consistent supply of uniform carcasses, and in some cases retailers are moving to boxed beef.

In association with the Cattlemen's Association and Agriculture Canada (through their P.E.P. program), assistance was provided in marketing veal in the Montreal area and producers were given assistance in contacting auction managers and abatoir personnel, as well as arranging transportation, and were provided financial assistance for the delivery of calves to these markets.

Lamb Marketing

Branch staff, along with representatives of the P.E.I. Lamb Coop and P.E.I. Sheep Breeders, took part in discussions with representatives from the Eastern Provinces and New England States as part of a cooperative lamb marketing project. These sessions provided opportunities for sharing information regarding successes in lamb maketing in various areas as well as discussing ways of cooperating with other jurisdictions in meeting market demands.

Pork

The Branch continued to share in the administration of the Hog Stabilization Program with the P.E.I. Hog Commodity Marketing Board. Market prices for pork did not reach the level suggested by industry forecasts. Prices did rise through each of the first three quarters but then dropped sharply in the fourth quarter. The 1984 average market price was $72.17 per cwt. while the average support price was $81.00 cwt. This resulted in a larger payout to producers from the stabilization program in 1984 as compared to the previous year.

The Branch continued to administer the transportation subsidy and provincial hog marketing assistance program for processors.

In cooperation with the Hog Commodity Marketing Board, the following items were dealt with: U.S. Countervailing investigation into Canadian pork exports, federal A.S.A. stabilization payment, market hog indexing information, and budgets for P.E.I. Quality Swine and the Hog Board.

Tripartite Red Meat Stabilization

Branch staff attended several meetings held for the purpose of explanation of this proposed program to provincial representatives and to industry representatives.

The biggest drawback to this program from a provincial standpoint is its failure to recognize regional cost of production differences in establishing level of payout to producers.

Milk Marketing Commission

The Milk Marketing Commission, as outlined under the Milk Marketing Plan, provides for the promotion, control and regulation of the production and marketing of milk within Prince Edward Island. Many of the functions and the accompanying powers have been delegated to the Provisional Milk Marketing Board. The duties retained by the Commission include class I milk producer and consumer pricing, milk transportation rates, licensing, audit functions and the accumulation of statistical dairy data.

The Commission also continued to administer the Cream Producers' Assistance Program, distributing $40,000 to farm separated cream producers.

Crops Marketing

Potato Acreage Estimation Survey

The Branch assisted Statistics Canada in this survey designed to establish acreage of potatoes planted in the province by variety.

Hay Market Development

Efforts to define, investigate and enter hay markets continued in 1984. Marketing initiatives were directed toward three geographic areas — Newfoundland, Great Britain and the south-eastern United States. Through the technology of bale compaction freight costs per ton of hay shipped have decreased significantly. P.E.I. hay has successfully entered the British market.

The Branch continued with assistance to producers of a variety of crops of lcoal importance.

Grain

Marketing staff has worked closely with the Manager and Board of the P.E.I. Grain Elevators Corporation in the development of a protein bonus program for high quality wheat and barley. Considerable time has been spent in interpreting the change in the Federal Feed Freight Assistance program and providing information and advice on its implementation.

Cranberries

The program for developing markets for wild cranberries continued in 1984. Assistance was given toward purchase, grading and marketing. P.E.I. wild cranberries were marketed fresh, as locally produced cranberry sauce, and to a Nova Scotia processor for cranberry cocktail.

Strawberry plants

The West Prince Industrial Commission continued to receive assistance in the production of disease free strawberry plants from tissue culture. Species other than strawberries were investigated for propagation.

Strawberries

Assistance was provided to the P.E.I. Strawberry Producers in securing financial support to enable the processing of strawberries. Quality trials were conducted on individually quick frozen (I.Q.F.) strawberries to determine the frozen quality and marketability of each variety.

Blueberries

Staff continued to work with the P.E.I. Blueberry Marketing Cooperative and the P.E.I. Development Agency in securing markets for blueberries. Markets were lower in 1984 with production off slightly.

Raspberries

Marketability and quality trials were conducted on several varieties of raspberries to determine the most suitable varieties for future freezing.

Cole crops

The Branch continued its support to the P.E.I. Cole Crop Growers' Coop Ltd. As with other areas in Eastern North America, low marketable yields restrained market development.

Tomatoes

Assistance was provided to the growers of hothouse tomatoes in the promotion of their products in local retail outlets.

Commodity and Educational Promotion Program

The Education and Promotion Program of the Marketing Branch, supports two primary objectives. These objectives and their correcsponding programs are as follows:

Objective: (1) To promote the use and value of agriculturally produced foods and their relationship to overall good eating habits.

Commodity Group Projects:

Through Committees each of the following agricultural commodity groups, boards or associations, Education and Promotion Programs are planned, coordinated and implemented.

Dairy: A. "THE SCHOOL MILK PROGRAM". The P.E.I. Department of Agriculture is represented on The P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd. The Foundation administers the School Milk Program on behalf of the P.E.I.

Milk Marketing Board, the P.E.I. Fluid Milk Processor's Association, the P.E.I. Department of Education and the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture.

Education, Research and Promotion:

One objective of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation is to increase the milk consumption of students and to help school children develop life-long, good eating habits and positive attitudes towards nutrition. To help achieve this objective the many education, research and promotion activites were carried out in keeping with the "Order of the Moo" theme, including a 30 minute live program, activity sheets, and a parents' newsletter. In late 1984, the "Discovering Milk" Study Prints were distributed to every elementary school classroom. The four prints emphasize: the P.E.I. School Milk Program, The P.E.I. Dairy Industry, the variety of locally producted dairy products available.

Co-ordination:

On behalf of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd., the department provides two Co-ordinators for the School Milk Program.

They administer and monitor the Program and are responsible for implementing the Education, research and promotion projects.

Additional details of the School Milk Program are provided in the Annual Report of the P.E.I. School Milk Foundation Ltd.

Dairy:

B. To support the Promotion Programs of the P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board, financial assistance was given on the purchase of Booth Display System.

Lamb:

The Prince Edward Isiand Lamb Co-op's objectives are to make consumers more aware that fresh Island lamb is available and to educate the less frequent and more frequent user of lamb how to better prepare and use lamb for family and guests.

Education and Promotion: Projects included:

a. "TREAT YOURSELF ...FRESH ISLAND LAMB" ...October 1984 was the focus for a promotion consisting of (i) in-store demonstrations; (ii) up-grading of the lamb displays at the meat counter; (iii) lamb recipe and business card newspaper advertising.

b. The Lamb Speaker's Club was resumed. Speakers demonstrate the preparation of fresh Island lamb to community schools and other interested groups.

c. The publication "TREAT YOURSELF ... FRESH ISLAND LAMB" ... was reprinted.

Potatoes:

To support the promotion programs of the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board:

a. A new publication "CHOICE CUTS" was developed by marketing staff.

The publication is for distribution at trade shows and at out of province retail outlets.

b. Assistance was given for professional staff to man the Board's booth at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and the Maritime Winter Fair.

Dairy Goats Milk:

a. A new publication "10 TEMPTING WAYS WITH DAIRY GOAT MILK" was developed and printed. It's objective is to show the uses of dairy goat milk in the diet.

b. With the assistance of the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, a booth promoting dairy goat milk in the Moncton market, was placed at the Maritime Winter Fair.

Beef:

In co-operation with the P.E.I. Cattlemen's Association and the Beef Information Centre, a "Cut It with Island Freezer Beef" promotion was held during September, 1984. It consisted of: a freezer beef directory distribution, radio advertising, newspaper ads with a list of freezer beef suppliers, Newspaper ads advertising the Freezer Beef Directory, A meat cutters workshop, and three consumer workshops in Summerside, Charlottetown and Montague.

Rabbit

A factsheet "Island Rabbit At Its Best" was developed for the P.E.I. Rabbit Breeders Association, and arrangements were made for staff to tend a display at the Rabbit Show and Sale.

Vegetable Factsheets:

Information was prepared and developed on the selection, care, usage and nutritional value of 25 vegetables for the Extension Branchs', "Vegetable Factsheets for Home and Market Gardeners."

Jointly with the Agricultural groups' promotion committees and the P.E.I. Development Agency, the following education and promotion programs were conducted.

Pork

The P.E.I. Hog Commodity Marketing Board takes part in both provincial and maritime education and promotion programs.

Provincial programs included:

A barbecue promotion consisting of: (a) the development and printing of a new publication "Hear the Sizzle ... Smell the Aroma"; (b) radio advertising and (c) newspaper advertising.

The P.E.I. Pork Promoters a group of women who promote the pork industry have been assisted with their projects.

The Sizzler — the sponsorship of the successful private company which caters to pork barbecues on P.E.I.

Food Fairs — Three day consumer food fairs in Summerside, and at the Confederation Court Mall, were attended.

Eggs

The Promotion Committee of the P.E.I. Egg Commodity Marketing Board takes part in national programs developed and implemented by C.E.M.A. as well as provincially planned and implemented programs.

Their activities included:

a. National Programs:

Participation in radio advertising and direct mail cookbook drop.

b. Provincial Program:

Seniors Workshops — approximately 30 presentations were delivered to Seniors groups. The objective was to demonstrate the use of eggs for easy and nutritious, supper and dinner meals and snacks.

Mini Food Fairs — Eggs were represented at two, three days consumer fairs in mall displays.

Strawberries

In co-operation with the P.E.I. Strawberry Growers Association the following were carried out:

a. A winter promotion of newspaper advertising. It's objective was to remind consumers to use their frozen berries.

b. A summer promotion consisting of:

(a) a merchandising kit and point of sale material for retail produce managers; (b) newspaper ads listing growers names; (c) radio ads and (d) the distribution of the publication Island Strawberry Favorites.

The P.E.I. Milk Marketing Board also took part in this campaign.

c. A consumer Check Telephone Survey was completed to determine usage and attitudes re a) fresh and home frozen strawberries and b) the availability of fresh local strawberries in season.

Projects involving all of the agricultural commodity groups and various agencies were also carried out within the marketing budget. These projects come under the following objective:

OBJECTIVE (2) To educate the consumer to the role of the agriculture industry in the Island economy, the problems and importance of the agricultural producer in the food system and to inform agricultural producers of consumer concerns.

These projects included:

a. "FOOD NEWS" ... a week day one minute food commentary carried on radio stations CFCY, CHTN and CJRW.

The Commodity Education Specialist was responsible for the researching, writing and airing of 260 "Food News" releases.
The purpose of these releases is to educate consumers about the variety and uses of Island agriculture products, and the problems and concerns in producing and marketing these products.

b. "COUNTRY KITCHEN" AND "COUNTRY CORNER" ... bi-weekly newspaper releases with accompanying photographs, featured Island farm women and, their on-farm activities. The farm women promote their products through sharing a favorite family-tested recipe of the agricultural product they produce. This is carried out with the help of the Charlottetown and Summerside District Home Economist.

c. OTHER - MEDIA ... Contribution to Cornerpost and Deparmtent of Agriculture broadcasts as required.

Statistics and Market Information

The Marketing Branch continues in its role of collecting, compiling and dispersing market information. Statistics Canada provides much of the statistical information regarding production, farm cash receipts, farm income, etc. while we rely on industry contacts to provide up-to-date pricing information.

The code-a-phone system, which has daily update information on livestock, cereals and field crops markets is used regularly by the farming community. In addition, the AGricultural Market Report is compiled andpublished weekly as a source of agricultural pricing and sales information.

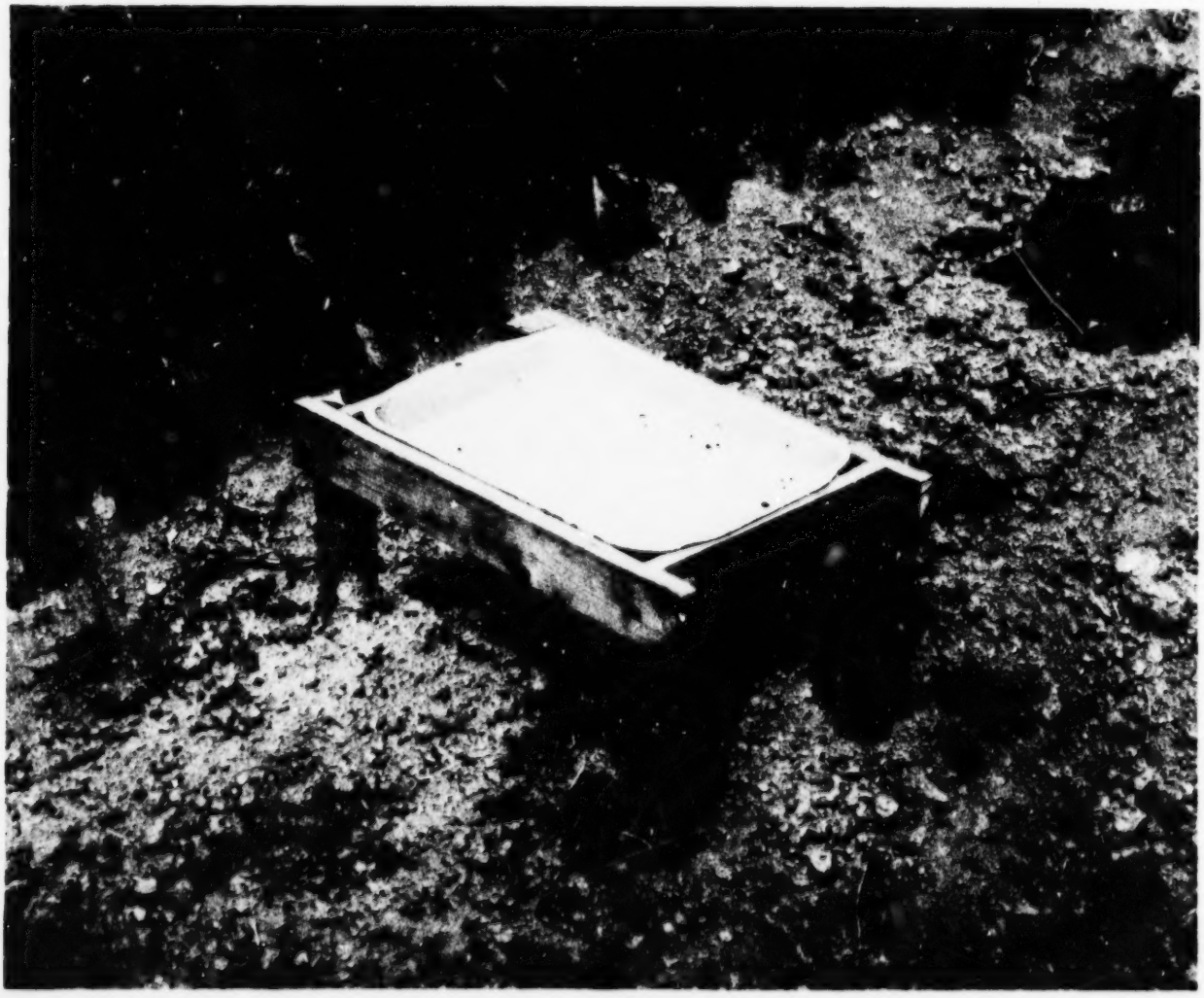
The annual statistics handbook and supplemental statistical sheet were published as well.

In addition, the Branch answers numerous phone and written requests for statistical information.

Marekting staff also participate in radio programs, seminars, conferences, and provide written information for students, newspapers and local farm publications on a wide range of commodities.

Farmers' Markets

The Branch has assisted in the estalbishment and operation of the Province's six farm markets. Markets operate on a seasonal basis in Bloomfield, Summerside, Souris, Montague and Wood Islands. The Charlottetown Farmers' Market operates year round and in December, 1984 relocated to a permanent new home on Belvedere Avenue.



Plant Industry Branch

The Branch is responsible for providing farmers with technical advisory services in selective areas of crop production, land management, and related requirments. However, the main thrust of Branch activities involves the potato industry. Essential services which are required by potato farmers to keep ahead in this highly competitive business are provided by the Potato Industry Services Program. Examples of these services include disinfection of equipment, inspection of certified seed after planting, and table potatoes offered for sale within the province, ring rot clean-up, cull burial, disease and weed control, and making available information on potato production and specifically, the technology required for increased productivity.

The Branch, in response to the need of the potato industry, has initiated the disinfection of all potato transport trucks entering the province at Borden and Wood Islands in order to protect against entry of diseases, especially ring rot. By the end of the year, a 24-hour shift to disinfect trucks at both terminals had to be established due to increased traffic at this time of year.

The Plant Industry Services Branch has made the commitment to offer an expanded potato services program geared to service potato growers in the areas of production tehcnology and provide the potato industry with up-to-date information on disease and pest control, varieties, fertilizers, and other topics of significance to the industry.

1. The Branch Director worked closely with the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board and the Potato Producers Association to develop a plan for the expansion and modernization of the Elite Seed production system which is owned and operated by the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board on behalf of the potato industry. The Director was appointed by the potato industry to chair a working group with the objective to develop an overall plan to expand the Elite Seed Farm at Fox Island and to initiate a new back-up satellite elite seed farm close to Charlottetown. On the basis of the findings of this Committee, the P.E.I. Potato Marketing board submitted a request for joint funding of the Elite Seed Farm project to the office of the Director of Regional Development Branch of Agriculture Canada and to the Office of the Deputy Minister of Agriculture.
2. The Branch Director worked closely with the Office of the Deputy Minister in preparing position papers, letters, and reports for submission of concerned Departments in Agriculture Canada and other agencies of the Federal Government on matters of significance to the agriculture sector, especially the potato industry in the province, including the potato inspection services, negotiations for Canadian seed potato importation into Italy and other countries within the European Community, breeder's rights, Pesticides Control Act, noxious weeds, potato disease control and related matters.
3. The Branch Director represented the Department at meetings of Potatoes Canada and the Atlantic Committee on Soil and Climate.
4. The Soil and Feed Testing Program completed the technical preparations to conduct more selective testing of potato petioles and plant tissues in order to provide a more complete service to potato and other cash crop growers so that more benefits will accrue to them from improved management of crop fertilization practices. In this regard, the objective of the whole exercise is to assist growers attain maximum profitable yields if at all possible through certain adjustments of fertilizer application technology.

Limestone Assistance

In its continuing effort to encourage farmers to improve the quality of their soil, the Department of Agriculture, Plant Industry Branch assisted 1,239* producers in the purchase of 48,391* tonnes of limestone during the year. By the continued use of limestone, farmers will increase the effiency of fertilizers and their cropping systems.

*April 1, 1984 to December 31, 1984

Potato Industry Services

Media Extension Campaign

In an attempt to make growers more aware of the services and information available the Plant Industry Branch conducted a special media awareness campaign during the year targeted at the potato industry.

In addition to radio programs and 93 press releases, several other media forms were employed, including **"Cornerpost"** updated fact sheets, and expanding the Plant Industry Branch photo and slide file on potato technology topics.

Travel and Technology Exchange

1. The Potato Association of America 68th Annual Meeting.

   The P.E.I. Department of Agriculture provided transportation and registration for eight potato grower participants. The growers were selected by the P.E.I. Potato Producers Association. While attending the P.A.A. meetings, the group had an opportunity to visit the Central Aeroostook County Potato area and the Porter Seed Farm.

1. Delegation to the Northwestern United States

The objective of the tour was to observe and evaluate potato production, handling, storage, packaging and merchandizing techiques employed in the northwestern States, with particular reference to the Russet Burbank variety. Due to marketplace demands, this variety has gained a position of great importance in the Island industry, a position which is anticipated to increase in importance with time. The Russet Burbank variety has been grown and marketed with a very high degree of success by producers in the northwest U.S.A. for some time.

Potato industry representatives who participated in the tour were Garth Wilkie (Potato Producers Assoc.), Gary Linkletter (Count Pak Organization), Jim Simonds (Processing Council), Rod Nicholson (P.E.I. Potato Services Ltd., and Richard Gorrill (Potato Producers Association).

North American Seed Seminar

A seed potato grower was sponsored to attend the 3rd Annual Meeting of the North American Seed Potato Seminar which was held in Chicago. The information obtained from the Seminar will be reported to the potato industry.

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Potato Technology Seminar

In mid-February, the Plant Industry Branch sponsored a potato technology seminar — "Making the Grade" — which dealt with product handling, bruise control and subsequent beneficial influences of improved handling techniques. The seminars involved local regional and international expertise. Approximately 170 potato producers attended the day and a half event.

Potato Harvest Field Days

In response to recommendations made by producers at the **Potato Technology Seminar,** a series of three harvester adjustment and potato bruise detection clinics were sponsored with more than 120 Island producers attending. The clinics demonstrated harvesting techniques and equipment adjustments which reduce mechanical damage to potatoes without reducing the efficiency of field operations. Mr. Rob Thornton, a Washington state Agricultural Consultant, demonstrated techniques described during the Potato Technology Seminar.

Potato Fertility Workshops

Since a considerable amount of controversy has occurred regarding the relationship between potato varieties, storage quality, and use and fertility requirements, the Plant Industry Branch, through two one-day workshops (Summerside and Charlottetown) provided a format to solicit producer opinions; present and discuss related work of the Branch, and other agencies. Dr. John Toberna, Western Labs, Idaho, was contracted as a resource person for the workshops where more than 150 producers took part.

Potato Information Library

The Plant Industry Branch began to compile information specific to potato production and handling, including printed materials from all over the world and slides. The complete inventory of slides and photographs have, with the aid of the computer, been catalogued, categorized, and made available to extension staff, farm groups and individual producers on a loan basis.

1984 Potato Crop Statistics

All potato crops of more than 0.1 hectares grown in Prince Edward Island are required to be planted with certified seed, according to the Plant Disease Eradication Act Regulations. These crops are to be registered by growers with either the Federal or Provincial authorities and may receive inspection at any time to determine the presence of disease.

Inspection of all known tablestock operations determined that 87 growers produced a total of 1230.6 hectares (3,041 acres).

Two thousands four hundred and ninety one point five hectares (6,156 acres) of tablestock potatoes were grown on seed potato operations in addition to the 24,039.2 hectares (59,401 acres) of potatoes entered for crop certification.

The total 1984 potato crop, produced by 815 Island growers and recorded by the Federal and Provincial inspection staffs, amounts to 27,761.3 hectares (68,589 acres). Eighty six point six per cent of the total potato acreage was entered for seed certification and 80.9 per cent passed as certified seed. Of the total crop entered for seed certification, 93.4 per cent passed, 0.9 per cent was withdrawn for early market sales and 5.7 per cent was rejected for not meeting the required standards.

Six varieties account for 96.3 per cent of the total potato acreage planted on Prince Edward Island and 12 varieties account for 98.5 per cent of the acreage.

Meteorological data

There were 150 consecutive frost-free days recorded at the Research Station, Charlottetown in 1984. These occurred between the 0°C reading on May 8 and the 0°C reading on October 5. The last killing frost (-2°C) occurred april 24 while the first killing frost arrived on October 13, giving 172 killing-frost-free-days in 1984 compared to the 75-year average of 188 days.

During the seven-month period, April 1 to October 31, 1984, total precipitation recorded at the Research Station, Charlottetown, amounted to 802.2 mm, the highest since 1979. July and October had below normal

precipitation; the other five months had considerably above normal rainfall. Between June 24 and August 6, inclusive, a period of 44 days, only 52.5 mm, or slightly more than 2 inches of rainfall were recorded at Charlottetown. As an illustration of the variability in rainfall across the province this past summer, C.F.B. Summerside reported 113.6 mm of rain for the month of July, whereas the Research Station, Charlottetown, recorded only 49.2 mm. The 75-year average precipitation for October at the Research Station is 104.5 mm, however, this past October produced only 61.8 mm of rain in the Charlottetown area.

In general, a big crop of potatoes was harvested in 1984 when the additional 2,500 acres and some extremely high yields are taken into account. However, cullage appears to be in the 30 per cent range, which will result in about the same quantity of potatoes reaching the market as last season.

The high cullage came as a result of the stress factors placed on the potato crops, especially the Russet Burbank variety during the extended dry period in July and early August.

The Florida Test

For the past few years, Elite and Foundation seed potato growers in Canada have been required each fall to provide representative samples of their crops (400 small tubers) for a post-harvest test in Florida. Many northern States potato producing states are involved in similar winter testing as part of their seed certification programs.

The 770 samples from the 1983 seed potato crop on the Island were planted by a team of Federal, Provincial and Elite Seed Farm employees. Approximately 70 acres of land were required in Florida to accommodate all the Canadian samples from the 1983 crop. The Provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island send the bulk of the samples for winter testing, so the planting and reading crews are provided from these areas.

The Florida test results indicate the amount of virus disease and variety mixtures, if any, found in each sample submitted, and provide an advance reading on how a grower's seed potato crop is expected to perform when planted either at home the following spring or by the end purchaser wherever he may be located.

When the first readings commenced December 29, there was considerable evidence of frost injury on the potato, tomato and other vegetable crops in the area. The Island test plots escaped serious injury and soon outgrew the slight injury they received.

There was slightly less virus in evidence this past year than in the 1982 crop, post-harvest test; i.e. fewer lots were infected and there were lower rates of infection within the lots. The Island's Red Pontiac and Russet Burbank varieties are much freer of mosiac virus than are those of neighboring potato growing areas of the United States and Canada. The Shepody and Green Mountain varieties have improved somewhat over the past year, but require more work to bring them up to the high standard attained by most other varieties.

Of the 770 sample lots sent to Florida from the 1983 potato crop, 532 lots received a clear reading, 167 lots had virus readings of less than one percent, 42 lots had readings between one and two per cent, 15 lots had readings between two and five percent, while one lot of Shepody had a high reading of 6.38 per cent mosiac.

Extension Plant Pathology

The extension plant pathologist has established a disease identification and control service for Prince Edward Island potato growers. Through the means of either field observation or pathological laboratory tests and examinations, the provincial plant pathologist identified fungal and bacterial diseases for such crops as potatoes, brussel sprouts, cabbage, carrots, onions, and greenhouse tomatoes.

Routinely, potato fields and potato storage areas were visited and samples were taken to determine the primary cause of the problem.

During the winter months, the Plant Pathologist organized a survey to determine the cause, extent and severity of a "Late Blight" outbreak. Results from the

VARIETY	HECTARES	ACRES
Russet Burbank	12,095.9	29,889
Kennebec	6,644.6	16,419
Sebago	3,139.6	7,758
Superior	3,103.4	7,669
Shepody	1,170.4	2,892
Red Pontiac	574.7	1,420
Atlantic	168.8	417
Green Mountain	163.9	405
Chieftain	93.5	231
Bintje	87.8	217
Irish Cobbler	57.1	141
Norchip	51.6	127

survey did show that a combination of cultural practices and environmental conditions caused the development of the disease.

Other potato diseases which occurred this year were pink eye, bacterial soft rot, dry rot and seed piece decay. The major yield reducing physiological disorders were hollow heart, off-types and knobs. These disorders were found mainly in the potato variety Russet Burbank. Irregular fluctutations in a water supply caused these disorders.

In the West Prince area, potato growers had a problem with the potato variety, Superior. The Superior variety is very sensitive to cold wet spring weather. For this reason, misses occurred in some fields especially when the seed pieces were not green sprouted or warmed up before planting.

Throughout the potato growing season, early blight and *Botrytis* dry mold were showing up in potato fields especially in the Russet Burbanks and Kennebec variety. Both diseases are not known to cause problems in storage. Environmental conditions of hot, dry weather promoted the development of these diseases.

Various press releases and media scripts on potato diseases were prepared by the Plant Pathologist. Potential disease problems, management skills and recommended methods for prevention of diseases were also addressed. Thirteen fact sheets on potato diseases have been completed. These will be used by District offices and/or professional staff to provide farmers with information about potato diseases.

A completed set of slides on potato diseases has been established. Also, a set of slides on the 1984 late blight forecasting program have been prepared.

Late Blight Forecast Service

Based on the late blight outbreak that occurred in the potato storage bins, a late blight forecasting program was established. Weather information was collected from eight stations on Prince Edward Island. A late blight forecast was established from this information and was broadcast every Tuesday and Thursday from July 17 until September 14, 1984. One hundred per cent of the potato growers interviewed by telephone felt this program should be continued next year. The intention of the potato late blight service is to help growers schedule the time of application of fungicides to control late blight in potatoes. It also acted as a general awareness program to alert growers of blight outbreaks. This year, the number of late blight incidences decreased by approximately 74 per cent.

Potato Disease Control Program

The prime and ultimate objective of the disease control program is to eventually eradicate bacterial ring rot from Prince Edward Island. Programs designed towards achieving this goal include: On farm potato equipment disinfection, truck disinfection, potato cull burial, and tablestock inspection. These programs provide for proper disposal of all potential disease carrying material, as well, proper sanitation of all farms, trade outlets, and in-coming potato transport carriers. These programs are continually being realigned to ensure that our services keep pace with the potato industry so that bacterial ring rot will be eradicated.

Although instances of bacterial ring rot were identified in 1984, the level of infection in each case was minimal. Good cooperation among the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Canada, the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board, and the potato industry resulted in both speedy and thorough cleanups with minimal delay to farmers.

The Plant Disease Eradication Act

Under this Act, the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture's Seed Incentive Program encourages growers whose crops were involved in Bacterial Ring Rot to clean up their operation and purchase Foundation Grade seed for planting. A total of 14 potato growers used the potato seed incentive to a total payment of $82,266. Under the Plant Disease Eradication Act, all potatoes planted within the Province of Prince Edward Island must be certified class seed or better. The Act is enforced by the P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board in its status as the "Agent" of the Minister of Agriculture.

Potato Cull Burial Program

The Potato Cull Burial Program has been designed to aid in the provision for potato disease control. The program assists Island potato producers by providing for on-farm burial of potato culls, thus reducing the risk of disease organism transport and subsequent crop infection. Agriculture Canada survey indicate that there has been a reduction in blight incidence since the initiation of the burial program.

During the 1984 season, the cull burial program officially ran from April 1 to July 31. A total of 113 applications were received and the burial work was completed by 32 firms. All burial machinery was thoroughly disinfected prior to arrival on different farms to reduce risk of disease spread. New regulations to the Plant Disease Eradication Act shortened the burial deadline from August 12 to July 31. Regulations were also added to disallow the spreading or dumping of potatoes on agricultural lands or woodlots between March 1 and September 30.

Potato Disinfection Program

The Potato Disinfection Service includes on-farm disinfection of all potato handling equipment, disinfection service for delivery trucks and facilities at major potato packing and processing plants, and a truck disinfection service for all inbound trucks at both Borden and Wood Islands. Mobile disinfection units are available year round to the industry, free of charge, with the intent of the program being to sanitize farms and trade outlets against

disease infection, and in cases where ring rot has been found, to disinfect all equipment and premises.

The truck disinfection service established at Borden and Wood islands is a new service. All trucks arriving empty to Prince Edward Island for potato pick up are accommodated by these units. Trucks which are loaded are given directions for where disinfection may be obtained after unloading. Under the Plant Disease Eradication Act, new regulations state that all motor vehicles entering the province for potato pick-up must be disinfected prior to picking up potatoes.

Boxes	Bin-Piler	Trailer Trucks	Misc.
14	14	13	59
25	25	56	82
30	30	128	890
90	47	169	471
300	102	90	1225
160	72	149	852
55	36	21	1730
45	24	30	3982
204	101	81	4003
211	76	355	858
26	12	598	376
10		116	137
1170	539	1806	98,815

Two new programs initiated in 1984 under the Potato Industry Services include a Potato Anti-Bruise Campaign, and an inspection service for retail tablestock potatoes sold on Prince Edward Island.

In the spring of 1984, an inspector was hired to survey Prince Edward Island retail outlets and inspect the quality of Prince Edward Island potatoes sold. As a result, new regulations to the Act Respecting Standards of Agricultural Products were drafted whereby Canada No. 2 (for sizes, no defects) washed in polybags or Canada No. 1 in any type bag could be retailed on Prince Edward Island.

Land Resources Services

Soil & Feed Testing

The Provincial Soil and Feed Testing Laboratory provides, to the farmers of Prince Edward Island, analytical services about fertilizer and liming programs and livestock feeding programs. These objectives are met through services in soil testing, feed testing and the newly introduced plant tissue testing. The extension programs in soil fertility are carried out by the Branch through the soil chemist whereas the livestock feeding programs are carried out by the Livestock Nutritionist in-tthe Extension Services Branch.

LABORATORY STATISTICS - 1984

Sample Description	Number Completed
Farmer's Soils	6,674
Research & Special Project Soils	1,849
Farmer's Feeds	3,015
Research & Special Project Feeds	877
Plant Tissues	332
Veterinary Pathology	1,630
Water Chemistry Analysis	1,250
Others	321
TOTAL	15,948

DISINFECTION STATISTICS - 1984

Month	Ware-Houses	Truck	Set-Cutters	Pallets	Planters	Harvester
Jan.	21	32		145		
Feb.	30	34		207		
Mar.	47	63		260		
Apr.	80	91		634		
May	119	315	169	628	159	
June	62	125	233	3004	258	
July	80	54	53	443	60	19
Aug.	95	18	10	4100	9	17
Sept.	72	93		2111		82
Oct.	81	120		663	1	86
Nov.	16	41		871		4
Dec.*	2	5		101		
TOTALS	705	991	465	13,167	486	208

*As of December 5, 1984

During the year, 6674 soil samples, 3015 feed samples and 120 plant tissue samples were tested for Island farmers. Analysis on an additional 6139 samples were carried out for a number of different agencies, includng 1250 water samples completed as part of an agreement with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs. Over 92,000 individual tests or analysis were carried out on the 15,948 samples received by the lab.

A number of special developmental activities were carried out during the year to improve the quality of service provided to the farmer. The first was the completion of a survey of the levels of major and minor nutrients in soil and tissue samples for potatoes, tobacco and blueberries in the Province. These data aid in diagnosing nutrient problems in these crops using the plant tissue testing service.

An investigation was carried out regarding the highly successful fertilizer programs used by potato growers in the Mid-west United States. These programs utilize a series of plant tissue analysis done over the entire growing season. There was significant grower demand for information on these programs. Two seminars were held on these topics in Summerside and Charlottetown with over 150 potato growers in attendance.

In order to provide farmers with more information on the most economical fertilizer programs, a computer program was developed which complements the traditional soil test recommendations. This program is available to growers, upon request, and it converts the nutrient requirements specified on the soil test report into fertilizer programs and can examine the cost effectiveness of various alternative fertilizers.

Computer Processing of Potato Statistics

In order to develop a reliable data base for information on potato production in the province, a computerized system was set up to document all inspected potato acreage. This system uses information from both Federal and Provincial field inspection services and can include information on seed classes, acreages, varieties and post-harvest testing. It enables the creation of an up-to-date potato grower's list, a listing of potato acreages and growers by variety and a listing of varieties and acreages by grower. It also facilitates answers to various "ad hoc" inquiries regarding potato production and variety distribution.

Soil Management Services

The Farm Resource Mapping Program concluded with the implementation of the ERDA Program. Under the terms of the Federal Program, the provincial role is to provide detailed land improvement information to farm clients, similar to what had been done under the Farm Resource Mapping Program. Although the Soil and Water Conservation portion on the Federal Agreement was introduced late in the year, almost 100 clients completed applications prior to the year end. The Land Mangement Section inspected 26 sites, and completed resource improvement plans for 13. This section also responded to a further 52 farmer requests for soil information during 1984.

At the request of the Acadian Communities Advisory Committee, the soil specialist, and Section Staff, in cooperation with the Engineering Section of Extension Services, and the Department of Energy and Forestry, coordinated the planning and design of municipal drainage systems for a 7,500 acre watershed in the Evangeline Region. The final design and report was presented to and accepted by the Committee.

A major soil and water conservation project was undertaken by the soil specialist during the year, (the planning, design and implementation supervision of over 12,000 feet of contoured erosion and runoff control berms and 6,000 feet of grassed waterways on a large potato operation near Charlottetown.) This was a joint Agriculture Canada Soil & Crop Improvement Association Project. Much of the implementation was supervised by staff of the Plant Industry Branch.

The Soil Management Information Section was also requested to provide detailed land improvement data for approximately 120 acres of land at the Elite Seed Potato Farm at Fox Island, P.E.I. This work is currently underway.

The soil specialist also assisted in the preparation of a submission to a Senate Standing Committee investgating soil degredation problems in Canada.

The Soil Section Staff, assisted by summer students, developed a computerized photograph file and retrieval system, organized a potato production and technology library, provided planning and implementation of in-field surveying services for soil and water conservation projects, and provided cartographic services to the Plant Industry Branch, and other Branches of the Department. Staff also provided assistance to those using computer based data management programs and projects, and assisted in the Statistics Canada Project to verify potato holdings on Prince Edward Island.

Weed & Pest Control

Aphid Alert

Potato producers were again provided with the Potato Aphid Alert Service between the first of July and mid-September. Fifty-one yellow pan traps were located across the Island to monitor the flights of the potato aphid, buckthorn apid, green peach aphid, potato flea beetle and the tarnished plant bug. The traps were serviced twice a week with the information placed in a computer. A weekly report was issued to each producer who had a trap located on their farm. Besides the weekly producer reports, updates were given to the media to in-

dicate any significant population increases of the insects being monitored. The aphid populations migration flights, in particular the green peach aphid, were lower this year than in 1983 because of the heavy percipitation in Maine and New Brusnwick. The potato flea beetle showed a very high population during July-August. For three weeks, the flea beetle counts were high. Producers who used the "Alert" program were able to prepare an effective spray program to keep this pest from reducing their potato yield.

Potato Insect Survey

With concern about the Colorado Potato Beetle population being unmanageable, there was a need to determine exactly how serious this insect was on Prince Edward Island. A new survey in 1984 included 1,312 fields inspected which represented 207 potato farms on P.E.I. The survey indicate that very few fields were infested with the Colorado Potato Beetle. The highest number of Colorado Potato Beetles were found during the period of July 14 to August 5.

Noxious Weeds Control

The weed Tansy Ragwort was studied to determine the best chemical methods to control this poisonous weed in pastures. The two chemicals 2,4-D and Banuel were applied to a pasture heavily infested with Tansy Ragwort in the New Glasgow area. Both treatments gave good control when applied in the early spring. Fall treatments of these two chemicals to Tansy Ragwort also showed good control. With good application timing, Tansy Ragwort can be controlled in pastures with these two chemicals.

Weeds Action Committee

A Weed Action Committee was set in place by the Department last year. The purpose of this Committee is to address specific weed problems on Prince Edward Island and recommend methods of control the Province can successfully undertake. Input into this committee comes from Agriculture Canada, P.E.I. Departments of Agriculture, and Transportation & Public Works plus agricultural groups and agricultural industries.

The major contacts handled this year in the area of weed and pest management for P.E.I. were 60 per cent agriculture related calls and 40 per cent urban related calls.

Besides direct public contacts, information on pest management was made available through the local media, presenting seminars and speaking to farmer groups and associations. The 1984 P.E.I. Potato Pesticide Recommendations Chart was published and made available to the potato industry. Also 600 publications of the Chemical Weed Guide were distributed to the farming community through the local district offices.

Pesticide Control Act

The new Pesticide Control Act was proclaimed July 7th, replacing the Agricultural Chemicals Act.

The name was changed to reflect the exclusion of fertilizer and soil supplements which are governed by Federal legislation. The administration and enforcement of the Act has been streamlined under the revised edition in that the Minister may delegate authority to the Director of the Plant Industry Branch with respect to the issuance, renewal, or cancellation of any license or permit.

There is a section which would empower the Director to issue a "chemical control order" where he feels that the use, storge, application, etc. of a pesticide may be detrimental to any person, property, or the environment. The powers of the inspector are more clearly defined in his responsibilities regarding the issuance of all licenses and permits granted under the Act as well as the investigation of complaints associated with all aspects of pesticide use within the Province.

Pesticide Advisory Committee

The Pesticide Control Act allows for better representation on the Committee with membership increased to nine members from the previous five. This allowed more participation from farm and other groups, as well as other government departments. The Committee must also conduct a public hearing, at least once a year on any matter concerning pesticides. The newly formed Committee also met twice as a group to discuss issues which were pertinent to their mandate.

PESTICIDE APPLICATORS AND DEALERS LICENSED

CLASS	TYPE	1982	1983	1984
"A"	Ground (Custom)			1
"B"	Aerial	8	9	10
"C"	Structural (Fumigation)	9	9	7
"E"	Non-Structural (Non-crop land)	8	8	7
"F"				3
Dealer	Wholesale or retail	51	52	56

Complaint Investigation

During the period from June to September, various complaints were filed. These complaints ranged from apprehension about aerial spraying to non-target drift damage caused by a ground sprayer. The majority of these calls were referred by the toll-free, 24-hour answering service which was initiated by the Department so that, among other reasons, a quick response to any complaint or emergency situation would be realized.

Pesticide Control Program

Seven license classifications were available to those involved in the sale or commercial application of pesticides on Prince Edward Island. In accordance with the Pesticides Control Act, all pesticide dealers, selling Commercial and/or Restricted Class Pesticides, at wholesale or retail level, must be licensed. All dealer facilities were inspected and observations were noted regarding their storage and/or display areas. A letter was later forwarded to them, citing minimum standards which they must comply with in order to maintain/obtain a pesticide sales license.

Aerial Application

This year, in accordance with the new Act, all aerial spraying required a permit and conditions are now placed in the regulations which deal specifically with aerial spraying.

This year, 97 permits were issued to aerial applicators for a total of 11,889 acres. Last year showed only nine use-permits issued for a total of 1,100 acres. This drastic increase is due to the fact that all aerial applications now require a permit, whereas in the old Act, the permit requirement was in effect only for the application of Restricted Class pesticides. The following table provides an indication of acreage sprayed per application by treatment type.

ACREAGE TREATED BY AIRCRAFT
1984

TREATMENT	
Potato Insecticide and Fungicide	9,575
Potato Fungicide	24,401
Ridomil MZ	6,349
Potato Herbicide	2,039
OTHER	
Fertilizer	3,104
Grass Seed	483
Tobacco Insecticide	244
Grain Herbicide	223
Urea, Nitrozime	1,354
TOTAL	47,772

Other Programs

As a first for the Maritime Region, an aerial application "Fly-in" was held. Experts were asked to come to the Atlantic Region and by using their computerized equipment, were able to measure how accurately pilots here on Prince Edward Island were applying pesticide from their aircraft. This information could then be used to improve the application of the pesticide applied aerially. The costs were shared by the Atlantic Provinces, Environment Canada, and the Atlantic Council of the Canadian Agricultural Chemical Association. All pilots who were working on P.E.I. participated in the event, and it was well attended by farmers who use the services of the aerial spray companies, and members of the Pesticide Advisory Committee as well as Department personnel.

A pesticide vendor's certification workshop was held at N.S.A.C. in Truro for wholesale and retail pesticide vendors for the Atlantic Region. This program was presented by the Ridgetown College of Agricultural Technology through the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, in cooperation with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture and Environment of the Maritime Provinces along with the Atlantic Council of the C.A.C.A. (Canadian Association of Chemical Applicators). The purpose of this course was to provide the vendor with the information required to store and handle pesticides safely and to provide their customers with information pertaining to the safe use and proper recommendations for the products which they intend to sell. According to our Act, this course is mandatory for all persons in Prince Edward Island who wish to maintain/obtain a vendor's license.

A workshop dealing with pesticides was held in cooperation with the different District Federations of Agriculture. This series of workshops was designed to help farmers increase their knowledge about the safe and responsible use of pesticides and to provide them with information regarding legislation governing their use on Prince Edward Island.

A 24-hour, toll-free Pesticide Information Centre telephone number was initiated for the spraying season (June - September). This information-answering service was implemented mainly to gather reports of misapplication of a pesticide and to report any accidents such as crashes, jettisons, spillages, or dumping. The answering service also handled requests for Use Permits, as well as directing any inquiries dealing with pesticides to those in Government responsible for that type of program, depending on the nature of the call.

A poster dealing with Pesticide Poisoning was produced for farmers, as well as the general public. This poster identified the major pesticides used on P.E.I. and listed their known effects on humans and the surrounding environment. It also indicates what general symptoms would be observed in the event of a poisoning from a mild to a severe case.

The Department designated five back-up inspectors under the Pesticides Control Act, one in each Agricultural District Office to assist in the inspection and verification duties as deemed necessary by the agricultural chemicals field inspector. This commitment proved most useful in improving the enforcement of regulations under the Act.

Information Section

Information on all programs and policies of the P.E.I. Department of Agriculture, and extension information was released quickly to the agricultural community through the services of the Information Section. The Section is staffed by the director, information officer and secretary.

The Section is responsible for medial relations, advertising, daily and weekly farm broadcasts, news releases and a monthly agricultural magazine.

Production Services Offered

The Section processed approximately 40 Agri-fact sheets, coordinated the publishing of Atlantic joint publications, processed several publications specifically designed for P.E.I., and advertised their availability. (P.E.I., A Good Place To Farm, Personnel Directory)

Farm News Radio Service

Private radio stations on P.E.I. carried department programming which includes Farm Report, Focus on Farming, This Week in Farming, W.I. News, Farm & Forest News, Food News, 4-H, Preserving the Harvest, Crop Guide, Crop Report as well as Farm Market Report.

Approximately 325 daily 3½ minute Farm Report interviews were heard on radio stations CFCY, CHTN, CJRW, and CHLO-FM (Q-93). Farm Report is designed to alert the farm community to new technology, agricultural news, extension events, and provide agricultural community reminders.

"Focus on Farming—This Week in Farming," our 10 minute program was issued for air-play each Saturday—Sunday to CFCY, CHTN and CJRW for 52 weeks. This program alerts farmers to activities within the five district agricultural areas.

Production also continued for "Farm & Forest News", a 30 minute program aired on CHLQ-FM. This program consists of 1-10 minute agricultural feature, 5 minutes featuring Marketing issues, 1-10 minute forestry interview provided by the Forestry Branch, and in a two week rotation, 5 minute interviews with Home Economics staff, and Agriculture Canada. The Agriculture Canada series is further divided to represent both the Regional Development and Research Branches.

The agricultural market report was broadcast Monday-Friday on CFCY, CHTN, CJRW and CHLQ-FM. Approximately 1800 calls calls were received in 1984 by the Zenith toll free market line which is available 24 hours a day.

Crop Guide is a program designed for the potato producer. It provides both producers and consumers with explicit information on Island grown crops, and more specifically, potatoes. Approximately 150 broadcasts were produced for the 1984 season. This program was aired on CHTN, CJRW and CHLQ-(Q-93).

Crop Report features specific producers' success in production techniques, as well as tie in the consumers' interest. The first 10 minutes of the program is designed for producers, giving detailed technological information. The last 5 minutes is used as a weekly update and provides general industry information. 30 Crop Reports were produced during the 1984 season and were aired on CJRW and CHLQ (Q-93).

Press Work

The section provides commodity market reports to the weekly agricultural newspaper, sends out a daily and weeky news package, prepares agricultural features and provides media coverage of Island breeders in exhibitions. It also provides assistance to farmers organizations wishing to deal with the media. Approximately 40 news releases were issued.

Photography

Photography services are provided for black and white, color print, and slide production. These services are used to support the department's promotion, teaching and extension programs. Approximately 275 photography orders were processed through the section in 1984.

Advertising

All advertising of the department is coordinated through the section, with approximately (200) broadcasting and (400) press ads.

Special Projects

The section is also responsible for special projects. This could include agricultural brochures, books, editing and layout, printing co-ordination, slide-tape presentations, promotions' campaigns, and special events planning. Section staff works closely with other Department Branches in assisting and planning specific extension-information efforts of the Department.

During 1984, extension program was planned and set up in conjunction with the Plant Industry Branch. Technical, informational and feature material of specific interest to Island potato producers is emphasized, while general information supporting the potato industry is also produced. The project is carried out through radio, press, Cornerpost, PMB Newsletter, and extension publications.

A Soil Conservation Media project was carried out for approximately five months. This project was designed to increase farmers' awareness of soil conservation problems and programs available from the department, as well as alert the general public to the seriousness of soil

Administration Section

This section processes all the financial, personnel and administrative transactions of the Department, and prepares the annual budget for submission to Treasury Board. In addition, the Section carries out a monitoring function to ensure that expenditures are made in accordance with the budget.

The Department's Section consists of two switchboard operators, one at 11 Kent Street and one at the Research Station, a mailman, two Clerks, a Management Information Coordinator and the Director.

The authorized established for the Department is 166 part-time and full-time positions. The total strength of the Department at year end was 20 part-time and 138 full-time for a total of 158. The Department employed 39 summer students during the past year. We also employed 92 other people as relief and temporary employees for a maximum of 26 weeks.

Management Information

Over the past year, the Management Information Section has been phasing out the use of the mainframe Management Information System and developing a microcomputer system within the department.

One IBM-PC and Okidata printer have been installed in the Charlottetown District office, the Crop Section at the Research Station and the O'Leary District Office. One IBM-PC and Toshiba printer has been installed in the Technical Services and Support section and in the Farm Management office. One portable Epsom HX-20 was purchased for the Engineering section.

To date, the department has found WordStar (word processing), Lotus 1-2-3 (spreadsheet) and Dbase III (data base management) to be very worthwhile and satisfactory packaged programs which have met almost all departmental needs. Alberta Agriculture were most helpful in sending copies of their BASIC and VISICALC programs which they had developed.

In February, a Holland College student assisted in microcomputer work while on the job training. In May, the department was fortunate to hire a person with agricultural training and experience with the IBM-PC. This same individual was hired in November to help get the department over the developmental peak period.

Although the microcomputers have been kept busy with computer training for specific packages or a particular program usage, considerable time has been spent developing programs and packages for departmental use. Some of these programs include Pedigreed Seed Policy, Update Cost of Production, Vegetable Growers List, Pig Probe, Dairy Producers, Swine Cost of Production, Dairy Cost of Production, Somatic Cell, Beef Weaning Weight, 9 Crop Budgets, Junior Farmers, Community Pastures, and a Financial Worksheet package.

The IBM-PC's were used for a number of workshops, conventions and conferences and found to be useful.

Although work on the M.I.S. has been decreasing, approximately 250 computer requests were answered in addition to regular reports for phase III grants, 4-H, School Milk and Junior Farmer programs. Because the farm grants Program is over and the Junior Farmer and 4-H programs are in the process of being developed for the IBM-PC, the School Milk program will also be removed from the mainframe system because it is very expensive to maintain and update the M.I.S. with very little activity.

P.E.I. Women's Institute

The P.E.I. Women's Institute in 1984 had approximately 185 branches operating in communities across the province with a membership of approximately 2800. A provincial Board of Directors of 20 women initiated and coordinated activities on a provincial level. The Department of Agriculture provided staff support in program development and delivery as well as assisting the organization in provision of necessary operational services.

Educational Programs

The main purpose of Women's Institute is to provide an educational program for rural women. To meet this objective, numerous programs of an educational nature are organized at both the community level and on a provincial basis.

To assist in the preparation of programs by local branch leaders, the Provincial Board develops and makes available through a Program Library, study materials in a format appropriate for branch meetings. During 1984 study packages were available on 17 topics. The Library recorded 265 loans with a total audience of approximately 4000. Three booklets, with study outlines provided, were also made available. Approximately 1800 copies of the booklets were distributed, and included the topics: Health Habits — A Self-Test; Women in the P.E.I. Labor Force; and It's Your Future — Be Prepared, a pension assessment booklet.

One of the major activities initiated by Women's Institute is a project with the slogan "From Farm To Table" carried out during March. The aim of the project is to increase understanding of the agri-food system, and produce a greater appreciation of the interdependence between producers and consumers.

The Women's Institute received support from both Agriculture Canada (Marketing Program) and Department of Agriculture in carrying out the main components of their project. The project included food demonstrations, use of various media, and provision of coloring books on Island agriculture to all grade III students.

The food demonstration and information session was presented in 19 communities and had a total participation of approximately 500 people. The two-hour presentation covered information relevent to producer consumer understanding i.e. the food chain, food prices, Island agriculture, Island food products, and demonstrations to increase the regular use of Island foods.

During Farm to Table Week, radio ads to publicize agriculture and food were run on all local radio stations. Two stations carried a daily quiz. Ads were also purchased in the press.

Coloring books on Island agriculture along with teaching aids, were distributed by committee members to all grade III classes (both French and English) in the province.

From July until October, the Department of Agriculture assisted the Women's Institute in providing a food preservation service for all Islanders. Local firms sponsored daily radio programs on all Island radio stations. A toll-free number was provided to provide replies for specific requests. A weekly column was provided to the Guardian. The service was marketed to the general public through a variety of techniques. The service recorded an increase of approximately 25 per cent in use over the previous year. A questionnaire to users of the service provided information valuable in development of the service in the future.

Women's Institute participated in the first "Fall Fest" sponsored by the Provincial Exhibition Association. Competitions for vegetables and some handcrafts were held. Approximately 300 exhibits were displayed. A food theatre provided demonstrations of major Island commodities each day of the Fall Fest.

In response to numerous requests from the membership, the Provincial Board sponsored a series of seven craft workshops during the fall with a total attendance of just over 200. The over-whelming response which could not be met by the program planned indicates the need for a continuation of a similar educational activity during the next year.

Leadership and Personal Development Stressed

Women's Institute recognizes the importance of personal development as a keystone to developing the leadership skills of their members. The current leadership program emphasizes communication skills, self-worth, and effective advocacy as well as practice in parliamentary procedure.

Leadership workshops are held each year for the various levels of the organization. The program allows members to learn more about current issues affecting Women's Institute members and their families, as well as their organization and its activities.

Provincial Convention Successful

Dr. Ben Schlesinger, a distinguished writer and speaker on the Canadian famiy was keynote speaker for the seventy-first provincial convention on the theme "Planning for Tomorrow's World". Workshops on relevant topics and issues provided an excellent forum for participation by more than 450 women registered for the convention. The Convention provides a forum for dissemination of information; an opportunity for members

from all parts of the province to participate; and an atmosphere for a close working relationship among branch, district and provincial levels as they participate together in the decision-making process.

During the Convention, the Helen Herring Scholarship of $500.00 was presented to Elizabeth O'Donnell of Vernon. Ms. O'Donnell is a third year student in home economics at the University of Prince Edward Island.

Provincial Exhibition A Highlight

The Provincial Women's Institute continued to operate the Handcraft, Art and Food Sections of the Provincial Exhibition. 1984 marked the sixtieth anniversary of the beginning of a handcraft show or sale operated by the Women's Institue. Although the format and locale has changed over the years, the show continues to attract many competitors and viewers. Over 900 exhibits were on display during Country Days and the Provincial Exhibition in the Women's Institute Building.

Public Relations Important

In addition to use of the various media to publicize activities and events, the Provincial Board uses radio and newsletters on a regular basis.

A weekly radio program, hosted and coordinated by a provincial board member, is heard as a public service program on each of the Island radio stations.

The "Institute News" is published for each member quarterly. Both the "Institute News" and a monthly newsletter called "Notes and News" available to all branches are used as a medium for keeping the membership informed.

Linkages

The Women's Institute has representation on a number of boards and organizations which share an interest in one or more of the main program areas of Women's Institute, or a common concern for an aspect of Island life.

In cooperation with the Summerside Lobster Carnival and Livestock Exhibition Ltd. the Women's Institute co-sponsors the Woman of the Year Award to recognize Island women who have made an outstanding contribution. The 1984 winner was Mrs. Margaret Beaton of Alexandra.

Prince Edward Island Women's Institute is represented on the Board of Directors of Anderson Transition House Association. Women's Institute members and branches across the province have supported Anderson House both financially and with donations of needed items. The 1984-85 donation of $1000. contributed by Women's Institute branches was used to completely furnish a bedroom at the House.

The provincial organization is a member of the Federated Women's Institute of Canada and has three representatives on the national board. Both programs and special projects are shared and developed through the opportunity for dialogue with representatives from Women's Insitute in the other provinces of Canada.

The provincial organization is also a constituent Society of the Associated Country Women of the World, with a member on the central governing Council of that organization. Through participation in A.C.W.W., Women's Institute members are able to participate and assist in projects to assist women in developing countries. The main emphasis of international efforts in the past year have been in the area of provision of clean water as part of the Decade for Clean Water and Sanitation. A target of $2800 has been set for Island Women's Institute members. Other international projects are operated through the Unitarian Service Committee and various African relief agencies.

Women's Institute participated with other organizations and Department of Health and Social Services in planning and sponsoring a Family Life Conference on the topic of family communications. As the result of a joint request by Women's Institute and the Home and School Association, October 21-27 was declared Family Week.

Briefs and Submissions

Women's Institute members used resolutions presented at Provincial Convention and District Conventions as the chief method of recommending change to government. Among the resolutions approved in 1984, was a recommendation to require the use of seat belts in automobiles.

Statements were prepared for the Task Force on Child Care and forwarded on proposed revisions to the Divorce Act. A brief was presented to the Fraser Committee on Prostitution and Pornography. The Provincial Family Life Committee prepared a brief and presented it to the Quality of Island Life Legislative Committee.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1984

	EXPENDITURE	REVENUE (Other than Dev. Plan)
ADMINISTRATION	452,096.16	
INFORMATION	162,586.25	
MARKETING	1,067,260.60	
Hog Stabilization	1,187,752.61	
PLANT INDUSTRY SERVICES		
Branch Management	154,773.80	
Soil and Feed Testing	230,592.72	
Disease and Weed Control	93,208.15	313.00
Potato Extension Services	329,133.91	
Potato Disease Control	332,485.96	
Limestone Incentive	640,743.40	
Land Resources	97,122.76	
Community Pasture	157,617.50	120,454.40
Plant Industry Services TOTAL	2,035,678.20	120,767.40
EXTENSION SERVICES		
Branch Management	74,764.20	
Farm Development Program	3,673,304.07	9,301.00
District Offices	796,679.11	
Livestock Services	618,447.57	64,496.91
Crops Services	300,041.35	
Rural Development	443,448.34	18,836.89
Agricultural Education	340,193.70	
Grants	286,547.48	
Engineering	267,582.29	
Small Scale & Ltd Resource Farm Program	188,283.92	
Extension Services TOTAL	6,989,292.03	92,634.80
ANIMAL INDUSTRY SERVICES		
Branch Management	185,621.34	25,828.06
Veterinary Services (Herd Health)	495,188.55	654.00
Artificial Breeding	216,190.76	
Microbiology	113,224.20	
Dairy	205,729.13	816.32
Veterinary Services	734,821.92	4,706.89
Swine Inspection	124,094.75	
Animal Industry Services TOTAL	2,074,870.65	32,005.27
MARKETING COUNCIL	104,458.24	
P.E.I. CROP INSURANCE AGENCY	202,567.16	
P.E.I. MILK COMMISSION	60,337.86	
P.E.I. MILK MARKETING COMMISSION	142,396.62	
DEPARTMENT TOTAL	14,479,296.38	245,407.47

Notes: These payments are those support monies which were paid from Grant Accounts. If support was paid from other accounts, they will not be included here. There may also be grants paid to individuals which could also be considered grants to farm groups.

P.E.I. Beekeepers	$ 4,000.00
P.E.I. Aberdeen Angus Assoc.	656.00
P.E.I. Holstein Fresian Assoc.	9,632.00
P.E.I. Guernsey Breeders Assoc.	626.00
P.E.I. Ayreshire Breeders Assoc.	1,478.00
P.E.I. Hereford Breeders Assoc.	2,528.00
P.E.I. Jersey Breeders Assoc.	635.00
P.E.I. Shorthorn Assoc.	1,387.00
P.E.I. Cattlemen's Assoc.	5,750.00
P.E.I. Swine Breeders Assoc.	1,329.00
P.E.I. Quality Swine Inc.	19,527.17
P.E.I. Sheep Breeders Assoc.	646.00
S'side Horse Show	2,000.00
Island Quarter Horse Assoc.	5,000.00
Atlantic Standardbred Breeders Assoc.	31,053.00
P.E.I. Dairy Goat Assoc.	565.75
P.E.I. Rabbit Breeders Assoc.	700.00
P.E.I. Purebred Poultry Farmers	150.00
P.E.I. Tobacco Comm. Marketing Board	2,500.00
P.E.I. Soil & Crop Improvement Assoc.	29,380.95
P.E.I. Blueberry Growers Assoc.	1,500.00
P.E.I. Horticultural Assoc.	1,000.00
P.E.I. Dairy Producers Assoc.	420.00
P.E.I. Vegetable Growers Co-op	11,104.60
P.E.I. Potato Marketing Board	14,927.02
Potatoes Canada	54,000.00
P.E.I. Cole Crop Producers Assoc.	1,700.00
Wild Blueberry Assoc. of North America	1,600.00
School Milk Foundation	70,000.00
Women's Institute	14,000.00
P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture	48,970.61
National Farmers Union (NFU)	9,461.47
P.E.I. Junior Farmers	872.41
P.E.I. 4-H Council	20,000.00
Canadian Horticultural Council	4,308.12
Charlottetown Farmers Market	15,000.00
S'side Farmers Market	5,000.00
Souris Farmers Market	6,000.00
Wood Islands Farmers Market	8,000.00
Montague Farmers Market	1,200.00
O'Leary Farmers Market	4,500.00